



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Syria-Lebanon

Damascus radio reported that German hostages Thomas Kemptner and Heinrich Struebig were handed over to a German state minister in Beirut at 1215 local time on 16 June. The German official expressed "his thanks to the Syrian Government for its hospitality and its assistance in releasing the hostages," according to the radio. Beirut radio, however, broadcast a report stating that the actual transfer of the German aid workers had been postponed until 17 June due to "difficulties that cropped up at the last minute."

Palestinian Affairs

The PLO plans to open more offices in Amman following a decision to transfer some of its offices from Tunis to the Jordanian capital, London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT disclosed.

Israel

The government plans to build a water desalination plant in the Gaza Strip at a cost of \$250 million, YEDIOT AHARONOT reported. The plant will supply drinking water to "Jewish and Arab locations in the Gaza Strip and to southern Israel," according to the paper.

India

The government categorically denied any "clandestine procurement" of key nuclear and missile components from Britain, Delhi radio reported. Meanwhile, public sector services were disabled by a trade union strike staged on 16 June to protest the government's economic and industrial policies, Delhi radio reported.

Pakistan

Karachi and the Republic of Tajikistan signed an air services agreement on 15 June, Pakistan TV reported. Once-weekly flights between Karachi and the Tajik capital of Dushanbe will be inaugurated next month. In other news, the Army was accused of killing nine Sindh villagers in cold blood during the "Operation Cleanup" campaign in the province, Islamabad radio revealed. The Army promised to investigate the incident and said it had already taken an officer into custody, according to the radio.

Palestinian Affairs

Delegates Prepare 'Comprehensive Plan' on Elections

TA1506125092 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic
15 Jun 92 p 1

[By special AL-QUDS correspondent]

[Text] Cairo—Palestinian sources have said that a comprehensive plan for holding legislative elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip will be presented at the sixth round of peace negotiations in Rome following the Israeli elections in the last week of June. The sources said that this plan, over which consultations are presently being conducted between the Palestinians and the Arab parties taking part in the peace process, stresses the need of holding the proposed elections before the end of October. The Palestinian proposals emphasize that the United States and Russia should maintain direct supervision over the elections, with Israel adhering to neutrality. AL-QUDS has learned that Arab-U.S. consultations over this plan are currently under way with the aim of reaching a formula to ensure the Israelis' agreement on it prior to its presentation at the upcoming round.

'Arafat To Chair 'Important' Meeting in Amman

TA1606141492 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic
16 Jun 92 pp 1, 11

[Report by Samir Sa'd-al-Din]

[Text] Amman—An important Palestinian meeting, presided over by Yasir 'Arafat, is to be held in Amman within the next two days. The meeting will be attended by members of the negotiating and advisory delegations, participants in the multilateral talks committees, and some university professors and Palestinian figures from inside the occupied territories who are members of the steering committee headed by Fatah Central Committee member Ahmad Abu-'Ala'.

The participants in the meeting will conduct a full review of the peace negotiations whether on the level of the bilateral talks or the multilateral talks committees. Some Palestinians believe that the negotiations have not yielded any results due to Israeli intransigence and the Shamir government's refusal to give the peace efforts any chance to advance through its disavowal of Palestinian demands and lack of U.S. pressure on Israel. Other Palestinians believe that it is advisable to wait until after the Israeli general elections, when the United States would have to intervene to give the peace process a chance to succeed. Apart from this, Palestinian participation in four committees of the multilateral talks has renewed hope for the achievement of progress by which the Palestinians might gain some of their rights, as they have been able to present their viewpoints comprehensively and to prevent Israel from confining the topics in those committees to technical issues.

Informed Palestinian sources believe that the Amman meeting will draw up an action plan for the coming phase with regard to participation in the peace process efforts.

This meeting was supposed to be held 10 days ago, but President 'Arafat's operation forced its postponement to a later date.

PLO To Open More Offices in Amman

PM1206140592 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 11 Jun 92 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Amman PLO's Second Permanent Headquarters"]

[Text] Amman—AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that the PLO intends to open more offices in Amman after the decision to move these offices from the Tunisian capital to the Jordanian capital, which, as a result, will become the PLO's second permanent headquarters.

These offices will have a social character due to the Jordanian capital's characteristics, which put officials in charge of them in direct contact with the kinfolk in the occupied territories, thus raising their morale and pushing them toward further cohesion and self-denial for the sake of public welfare.

There are indications that the PLO has started to gradually abandon its distant headquarters in the Tunisian capital and move closer—whenever conditions permit—to the occupied territory in order to exercise its daily and principal role toward the kinfolk in the occupied territory. But although its importance has increased recently, Amman remains the second headquarters after the Tunisian capital.

'Arafat Aide Comments on Fatah-Hamas Agreement

NC1206143292 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1138 GMT
12 Jun 92

[Text] Tunis, 12 Jun (MENA)—An aide to the Palestinian president, in charge of occupied territories affairs, has emphasized the Fatah movement's commitment to the principles of the Covenant of Honor recently reached between Fatah and Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement].

He said the agreement is the cornerstone of the organizational unity of all the Palestinian political forces and brings the democratic spirit to resolving internal disputes and conflicts.

He told MENA's correspondent in Tunisia that this agreement will give the Unified National Command of the intifadah in the occupied territories the leading role in spreading the spirit of struggle among the Palestinian people on the occupied homeland and in supporting the PLO in the political process.

The aide noted that contacts with Hamas were based on the struggle program within the framework of the Palestinian people's organizational unity, on the basis that this intifadah erupted under the PLO banner with the

aim of removing the occupation and based on unity among all the Palestinian struggle's resources.

He said Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat supervised the Fatah- Hamas meetings and initiatives to formulate an agreement. He noted two trends within Hamas: One represented by the traditional leadership and the other by the Muslim Palestinian patriotic youth, who launched the battle [with the traditional leaderships] in favor of the national Palestinian liberation program and drew up the Covenant of Honor with Fatah, issued in Jerusalem on 7 June.

The Palestinian official stressed that escalating the intifadah is the legitimate right of all the political forces, noting that the national interest requires resisting any attempts to impose a single view and also requires

resolving any dispute through commitment to the unity of national Palestinian establishments.

The Palestinian official revealed that Hamas has not refused to participate in the PLO, but has made proposals "not in harmony with the balance of the internal forces." He noted that the recent elections in the occupied territories—in the chambers of commerce, universities, and other organizations—were a real signal for understanding internal balances.

He added that the consultations and meetings with Hamas are continuing with the aim of finding an appropriate and just formula for having Hamas join the PLO.

The Covenant of Honor between Fatah and Hamas banned internal fighting and called for resolving disputes through democratic dialogue and for strengthening the internal front and protecting it from confusion.

Algeria

Education Minister Ali Benmohamed Resigns

LD1506201392 Algiers ENTV Television Network
in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] A short while ago we heard that the head of government has announced that Mr. Ali Benmohamed, the minister of education, today submitted his resignation and that the resignation was accepted.

Chairman Boudiaf Receives Iraqi Foreign Minister

LD1506164892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network
in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Mr. Mohamed Boudiaf, chairman of the Higher State Council, received Mr. Tariq 'Aziz, the personal envoy of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn at the presidential headquarters today.

After leaving the chairman's office, Mr. Tariq 'Aziz explained why he has come to Algeria.

[Begin 'Aziz recording] I have come to Algeria as a envoy of Mr. President Saddam Husayn to his brother Chairman Mohamed Boudiaf to convey fraternal greetings to Algeria—its government and people. I have also come to discuss bilateral relations between our two fraternal countries and the need for solidarity among Arab countries in confronting the imminent dangers and the challenges which face the Arab nation everywhere.

Also, I explained to His Excellency the conditions of the unjust siege imposed on Iraq by the United States and its allies. I also explained to him that despite the unjust nature of the UN Security Council resolutions and their biased nature, a great deal has been done in Iraq to actively implement them. But although the resolutions are being effectively implemented, the UN Security Council has thus far done nothing to lift the siege on Iraq. The reason is the attitude at the UN Security Council of the United States, Britain, and the West generally. They are applying pressure on the Council and on other members by [word indistinct] and indirect means so as to maintain the siege. [end recording]

Nabilah Khalafiah approached Mr. Tariq 'Aziz and asked him about attempts by the Americans and their allies to overthrow President Saddam Husayn in return for lifting the siege on Iraq.

[Begin recording] ['Aziz] The Iraqi people are Arab people with ancient roots, more than several thousand years old. This people cannot take orders from Washington, London, or any other capital. How can the people of Iraq in the nineties accept that Britain and America have to right to say who is to lead it.

President Saddam Husayn is the leader of Iraq; the leader of the people of Iraq. The people of Iraq are rallying around their leader because he bears the hopes of the people and embodies the people's aspirations for

independence and progress. He is their symbol. The Iraqi people will stand by their leader and his leadership as an expression of their attachment to independence, pride, dignity, and determination to achieve progress whatever the circumstances.

[Khalafiah] Mr. Tariq 'Aziz, what is Baghdad's position regarding the Iraqi planes which Iran refuses to return to Iraq, saying that it is asking for reparations for the Iranian-Iraqi war?

['Aziz] It is regrettable that the Iranian position is illogical. Its position is not in harmony with the relations that should prevail among Islamic states. We sent those planes in wartime as a matter of trust. A neighbor who is being exposed to difficult circumstances asks his neighbor to look after some of what he possesses. However, after the end of the war Iran began to take advantage of this and is refusing to return the planes. This is neither legitimate or ethical. We hope the Iranians will change their stand and be in harmony with the traditions of the relationship among Islamic states and return to Iraq what belongs to it. [end recording]

Boudiaf Receives Saddam Message

JN1506172592 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1435 GMT
15 Jun 92

[Text] Algiers, 15 Jun (INA)—President Saddam Husayn's envoy, Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz, has conveyed a message from his excellency to Algerian State Council Chairman Mohamed Boudiaf. The message deals with fraternal cooperation between Iraq and Algeria.

The message was delivered when the Algerian leader received Mr. 'Aziz today.

During the meeting, Mr. 'Aziz also conveyed President Saddam Husayn's wishes of progress and prosperity for the fraternal Algerian people.

In a statement to an INA correspondent in Algiers, Mr. 'Aziz said that he had discussed bilateral ties and current Arab situations with Mr. Boudiaf. There is a need to adopt a pan-Arab position through which the Arabs can express their solidarity with the Iraqi people as they suffer from the unjust blockade being imposed upon them, he said.

He noted that he had explained Iraq's position on the Security Council resolutions to Mr. Boudiaf. Despite Iraq's compliance with all international resolutions, he stressed, the Council has failed to take a single step toward lifting the blockade on the Iraqi people, thanks to U.S. hegemony over the international organization and its resolutions.

The meeting was attended by the Iraqi ambassador in Algiers.

Libya

Opposition Condemns al-Qadhafi 'Spectacle'

PM1506143292 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 12 Jun 92 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed report: "Libyan Opposition Describes 'Attack' as Theatrical Spectacle Planned by al-Qadhafi"]

[Excerpts] London, Tripoli. AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, news agencies—The Libyan opposition has described as "a theatrical spectacle based on a huge number of falsifications and an insult to other people's intelligence" the assertions made Tuesday by the weekly newspaper, AL-JAMAHIRIYAH, mouthpiece of the Revolutionary Committee; namely, that Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhafi—though his name was not mentioned—has called for the mirage of Arab unity to be abandoned and for attention to be paid exclusively to Libya's interests and that al-Qadhafi's commitment to the mirage of Arab unity was behind the suffering which the Libyan people have endured since 1969.

The Libyan National Salvation Front, the major Libyan opposition faction, said yesterday in a statement—a copy of which was obtained by AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—that "the Front's knowledge of the structure of the regime in Libya, al-Qadhafi's complete control of the regime's organs, and its knowledge of his maneuverings causes us to assert without a shadow of a doubt that the "entire theatrical spectacle mounted by the article and the Libyan News Agency" was planned, and indeed implemented, by al-Qadhafi personally. His aim is to give the world a false impression that there is a margin of freedom in al-Qadhafi's jamahiriya which allows criticism to be addressed to the head of the regime. Also, to portray the dispute and conflict between al-Qadhafi and the Libyan people and their national forces as a dispute over "the national unity issue," and to show that al-Qadhafi is the only unionist, whereas the Libyan people are against anything that is Arab, and that there are no other causes of that dispute."

The committee [as published] pointed out that the aim of these moves is to give the impression that the international sanctions represented by UN Security Council Resolutions 731 and 748 are the result of al-Qadhafi's Arab stances. Thus, it paves the way for al-Qadhafi to pursue an Arab policy characterized by tension and lack of cooperation and perhaps enmity, especially toward the neighboring states in the [Arab] Maghreb and the [Arab] East. [passage omitted]

The Front asked: "What has al-Qadhafi offered the unity issue since he assumed power 23 years ago?" It emphasized that that issue has never been the subject of a dispute between al-Qadhafi and the Libyan people, nor have al-Qadhafi's so-called unionist orientations caused the people's opposition to al-Qadhafi and his regime.

At the end of the statement the Front warned "our brothers and neighbors in the Arab Maghreb and the Arab East about al-Qadhafi's orientations expressed in that article, which was undoubtedly drafted by al-Qadhafi personally, so that Libya can experience a new era based on the constitution, democracy, human dignity and freedom, and international legitimacy—an era that cares for international cooperation and peace. [passage omitted]

Greens Declaration Calls For End To Sanctions

LD1406172192 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1550 GMT
14 Jun 92

[International Conference of the Greens: Declaration—JANA headline]

[Text] Sirte, 14 June, (JANA)—The international conference of the Greens, alternative, and peace movements, has called for the lifting of all the high-handed measures that have been taken by the United Nations Organization under American pressure against the people of the Jamahiriya. The conference decided to address the United Nations and the permanent members of the UN Security Council to call on them to lift the siege imposed on the people of the great Jamahiriya immediately and to solve the problems through peaceful dialogue between the concerned parties. At the end of its work, from 12 to 14 June 1992, the conference issued the Sirte "Declaration" as an alternative which can save mankind [words indistinct] which all the peoples of the world would participate in drafting and as a reflection [words indistinct] and a democratic safeguard for their freedom which confirms [words indistinct] to have the right to make decisions freely without any political, economic, or social pressures.

The text of the Sirte Declaration follows:

At the gracious invitation of the movement of revolutionary committees in the great Jamahiriya, the conference of the Greens, alternative, and peace movements, convened in the town of Sirte from 12 to 14 June 1992, in the shadow of extremely sensitive circumstances at a time when the peace of the world and human rights were exposed to the domination of a single power, which was imposing its exclusive domination on the peoples of the world and was turning the UN Security Council and its affiliated organizations into a screen and a tool to confer what it calls legitimacy on its resolutions, which are considered a blatant violation of all treaties, charters, and constitutions. These organizations have become a tool for repression and a threat to the freedom of the people, especially [words indistinct].

Based on the work for world peace, built on respect for the peoples' will and in recognition of man's role in ascertaining his dignity giving specific form to the principles of liberty, equality and justice, which are the foundation for building the desired human civilization. With a conviction in the positive contributions made by all cultures and civilizations toward the human march,

and with the desire to build a world that is free of all kinds and means of destruction, and in order to save future generations from the dangers of the effects of the present world order, including subjugation, oppression, the exploitation and destruction of the environment, and in pursuit of a platform for building an alternative world order that will save humanity from danger, an order formulated by all peoples of the world, that represents a reflection of their interests and would safeguard their freedom by means of a democratic process through which everyone can ascertain their right in decision-making, freely and without any political, economic or social pressures, the participants announce:

1. The participants affirm the principles of sovereignty and equality of peoples and individuals in the right of self-determination, economically, socially and culturally, representing the main pivotal point in the building of a better world;

2. The affirmation of the principle of dialogue between civilizations and cultures, the rejection of methods of the use of force or threats to use force and the prohibition of the use of sieges and boycotts and the resort to military solutions;

3. The affirmation of the principle of the prohibition of the use of germ and chemical weapons and the abolition of all types of mass destruction weapons in order to save humanity and its achievements and wealth;

4. That they stress that the dangers to which the sea environment and the forests are being exposed puts the existence of present and future human generations in danger of extinction;

5. The recognition of the right of man to live in a safe and healthy environment is one of the most important of human rights;

6. The adoption of the principle of fines against those who commit crimes of environmental pollution in all its forms; they also call for a campaign to be launched worldwide in order to focus light on the dangers to which the environment is being exposed which are among the most severe dangers facing human kind; a campaign should also be launched worldwide to focus the light on the dangers to which the planet earth is exposed; the conference also calls for considerable reductions in wasteful consumption by industrialized countries of raw materials, extracted from developing countries in abnormal circumstances, which are related to the appearance of pollution on the part of the rich industrialized countries;

7. The conference affirms and recognizes the role of women in a new order and stresses the importance of equality of rights for women within the framework of self-determination.

8. To continue contact between the Green, alternative and peace movements and the revolutionary committee movement, it has been agreed that:

A. A general congress for the movements is to be held every three years.

B. A regional congress is to be held once a year in preparation for the general congress, which will discuss all issues.

C. Youth camps are to be jointly set up by the Green, alternative and peace movements and the revolutionary committee movement. Such camps are to be comprehensive and are to include all activities liable to contribute to the making of a conscious, generation which believes in peace and values the responsibility of conserving the environment.

D. Semi-annual specialized seminars are to be held to deepen dialogue over joint issues and to define positions of unity in the face of all perils threatening man and his environment.

E. A publication or magazine is to be issued which reflects philosophical activities and contributes to the raising of consciousness among members of participating delegations.

F. It has been decided that the Vienna-based People's Association for Culture and Philosophy is to be commissioned to assume the role of coordinating, contacting, inviting to meetings and supervizing activities.

9. The brother leader, Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, honored the conference with his presence and participation. While the conference is stressing that brother Al-Qadhdhafi's speech constitutes a foundation for it, it expresses solidarity with the Libyan people at this time, when it is facing threats from the United States and some other countries and calls for the lifting of the sanctions imposed by the United Nations and the pressure from the United States. The conference also decided to talk to the United Nations and to the UN Security Council permanent members to immediately lift the blockade imposed on the people of the Jamahiriyyah and to resolve problems through peaceful dialogue among the parties concerned.

Kuwait

Decrees Issued Appointing New Ministers

LD1506213392 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in English
1830 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] A decree has been issued appointing the Interior Minister Ahmad Hamud al-Jabir as acting information minister during the absence of Dr. Badr Jasim al-Ya'qub. Another decree has been issued appointing the Minister of Electricity and Water Ahmad Muhammad Salih al-Adasani as acting minister of communications during the absence of Habib Jawhar al-Hayat. A third decree has been issued appointing the Minister of Public Works 'Abdallah Yusuf al-Qutami as acting minister of state for municipal affairs during the absence of Ibrahim Majid al-Shahin.

Military Cooperation To Be Discussed With France

LD1606085892 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0721 GMT
15 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 15 Jun, KUNA—Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim said in a news statement published here today that he will visit France on 13 July for "developing relations and increasing military cooperation between the two countries during the forthcoming period." He denied in a statement to the Kuwaiti AL-ANBA that this visit is connected with the signing of a security agreement with France, but affirmed that the agreement "is still under discussion on other levels to put down the general conceptions and clauses which will be approved by Kuwait and France, including maneuvers

and joint training between the two countries, and supplying Kuwait with the most modern weapons and equipment which French factories produced."

In reply to a question about whether the two defense agreements with the U.S. and Britain are sufficient to protect Kuwait from another adventure carried out by the Iraqi regime, the defense minister affirmed that Kuwait "still feels the Iraqi danger because of the presence of the tyrant Saddam and his clique at the head of the ruling regime in Baghdad, and those cannot be trusted." [passage omitted]

Yemen

AFP: Brother of Prime Minister Assassinated

NC1506220792 Paris AFP in English 2136 GMT
15 Jun 92

[Text] Sanaa, 15 Jun (AFP) - Hashim al-'Attas, brother of Yemeni Prime Minister Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, was assassinated Sunday in central Yemen, television reported here Monday.

"This crime, perpetrated at al-Shihr, in the province of Hadramawt, by elements hostile to the unity of Yemen, aims at the security and stability of the country," the television said. It gave no details.

Well-informed sources here said that Hashim al-'Attas, younger brother of the prime minister, was a taxi driver in Kuwait before the invasion of the emirate in August 1990 and had no political leanings.

He was buried Monday at al-Shihr, with the prime minister present.

Yemen has been hit by a wave of political attacks in recent months and has tried to tighten security.

U.S. Seen Trying To 'Control' World Environment*JN1506173992 Baghdad INA in English 1210 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Baghdad, June 15, INA—AL-THAWRAH daily, organ of the Arab Ba'ith Socialist Party, held the major industrialized nations, particularly the United States, responsible for the disasters that hit the world and caused huge devastation and damaged its environment.

Commenting on the outcome of the earth summit, concluded in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, yesterday, the daily said that the United States was mainly to blame for being the source of this danger, especially as it stood in the way of any attempt to reach effective and sound solutions to the environmental problems.

The paper made it clear that the political, economic and military domain the United States enjoyed under the new world order could explain the attempt it made to control the environment of this planet, criticising the selfish stance it assumed during the said conference.

It shed light on the disastrous effects the 30-state aggression had left on the environment of Iraq, pointing out that the hostile alliance led by the United States had used what was equivalent to seven nuclear bombs similar to those dropped on Hiroshima to destroy Iraq's economic infrastructure.

The paper confirmed that the devastation inflicted upon Iraq and the economic blockade imposed on its people proved how far the United States had gone in ridiculing the world to serve its hostile ends.

Saudis Warned of 'Gravity' of Pilgrims' Treatment*JN1506202892 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1805 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 15 Jun (INA)—The Ministry of Awqaf and Religious Affairs has warned the Saudi authorities of the gravity of persisting in their disgraceful course and scandalous mistreatment of Iraqi pilgrims.

The ministry held the Saudi authorities legally responsible for the lives, convenience, and safe arrival of Iraqi pilgrims.

This warning came in a statement made by a responsible and authorized source at the Ministry of Awqaf and Religious affairs to INA today.

The source affirmed that the Saudi authorities had continued their frenzied campaign against Iraqi pilgrims—the guests of God—thus reaffirming their flagrant violation of true Islamic values and principles. They have insulted, mistreated, and harmed Iraqi pilgrims.

The source said that the authorities of the betrayer of the two holy mosques held Iraqi pilgrims in Mina after they had fulfilled the rite of casting stones and had prevented them from proceeding toward holy Mecca unless they moved in small groups of two small cars at a time. This

resulted in the pilgrims being delayed and having to stay in Mina for over 20 hours under miserable health conditions, during which they suffered harm and exhaustion. [passage omitted]

Ba'ith Official Cites Party Ties Around World*JN1506173492 Baghdad INA in English 1415 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Baghdad, June 15, INA—Mr. 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Ghafur, member of the Arab Ba'ith Socialist Party [ABSP] regional leadership, said that perpetuating relations between the ABSP and Arab and world popular and political forces and parties despite pressures confirm the effective role of the party under the leadership of President Saddam Husayn.

Mr. 'Abd al-Ghafur, also official-in-charge of the party External Relations Office, added that maintaining these relations had aborted the blockade imposed on Iraq in the field of political action and boosted its relations with those forces and parties.

The ABSP officials said that party delegations would pay visits to Austria, Romania and Hungary shortly in response to invitations from their popular and political forces and parties to promote the existing relations with them. The delegations would expound the dangerous dimensions caused by the comprehensive economic blockade imposed on Iraq.

He further said that several Turkish parties welcomed a proposed visit by an ABSP delegation to Turkey within the frame of promoting the existing good relations between our party and those parties.

Foreign Minister Receives New Pakistani Envoy*JN1506180092 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Jun 92*

[Text] Foreign Minister Ahmad Husayn today received Mustafa Kamal Kazi, the new Pakistani ambassador to Iraq, who handed the minister a copy of his credentials as the ambassador of his country in Baghdad.

During the meeting, the minister expressed Iraq's willingness to promote the historical ties between the two friendly, Muslim peoples of Iraq and Pakistan to serve their joint interests and to enhance their cooperation at all levels. He stressed that the new world order seeks to humiliate the Islamic and Third World peoples and to deprive them of all opportunities for progress and development.

The new Pakistani ambassador expressed his country's readiness to cooperate with Iraq to boost bilateral ties. He underscored the historical ties between the two countries. The meeting was attended by the chiefs of the Protocol Department and the Second Political Department at the Foreign Ministry.

'Aziz Meets With Sri Lankan Premier in Rio

JN1106163992 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1605 GMT
11 Jun 92

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 11 Jun (INA)—On the sidelines of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz met with Sri Lankan Prime Minister D. B. Wijetunge on Tuesday.

Mr. 'Aziz explained to the Sri Lankan official about the impact of the unjust economic blockade against Iraq and the unjustified suffering of the Iraqi people as a result.

The two officials also discussed bilateral relations and prospects for promoting them to serve the joint interests of the two countries.

Saddam Exchanges 'Id Cables With World Leaders

JN1406085692

[Editorial report] Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic in its newscast at 1030 GMT on 10 June notes that, on the eve of 'Id al-Adha, President Saddam Husayn has exchanged congratulatory messages with the following Arab and Muslim heads of state:

Jordan's King Husayn; Morocco's King Hassan II; Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Republic of Yemen Presidential Council's chairman; Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, chairman of Sudan's National Salvation Revolution Command Council; Mohamed Boudiaf, chairman of the Higher State Council of Algeria; Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine. The radio further notes that Saddam has sent congratulations to Libya's al-Qadhafi, Sultan Qabus of Oman, Presidents Maumoon Abdul Qayoom of the Maldives, Said Mohamed Djohar of Comoros Islands, Idriss Debby of Chad, Ali Saibou of Niger, and Ghulam Ishaq Khan of Pakistan.

In its 1400 GMT newscast on 11 June, Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic reports that President Saddam Husayn has received congratulatory cables on 'Id al-Adha from the leaders of Tunisia, Comoros Islands, and Chad, as well as from the president of the Interim Government in Afghanistan, Sebghattollah Mojaddedi.

In its 1030 GMT newscast on 12 June, the radio reports that President Saddam Husayn has received a cable of congratulations from the Djibouti president. The radio also reports that Saddam received a cable from the Bahraini prime minister, filed as jn1206110492.

In its 1030 GMT newscast on 13 June, the radio reports that President Saddam Husayn received a cable of congratulations on 'Id al-Adha from General Lansana Conte, president of the Republic of Guinea.

Baghdad INA in Arabic reports at 1730 GMT on 13 June that President Saddam Husayn received a cable from Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

Saddam Thanks Citizens For 'Id Messages

JN1506112792 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1030 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn has thanked all the citizens who congratulated his excellency on the blessed 'Id al-Adha. A statement to this effect was issued by the Presidential Offices. Following is the text:

Leader President Saddam Husayn, may God protect him, thanks all citizens who congratulated his excellency on the occasion of the blessed 'Id al-Adha. He wishes everyone a noble, dignified, and happy life and beseeches God Almighty to grant Iraq the final and decisive victory over its renegade enemies, including the colonialists, the Zionists, and the treacherous agents. He also wishes our Arab nation and the Muslim world glory, honor, and dignity. Many happy returns to all.

[Signed] Hatim Hamdan al-'Azzawi, chief of the Presidential Office

'Udayy Saddam Husayn 'Comments' on Opposition

JN1506195792 Baghdad BABIL in Arabic
9 Jun 92 p 1

[Article by 'Udayy Saddam Husayn al-Nasiri: "Struggle and Agency"]

[Text] When an idea is open to interpretations, it is better to present the idea itself so that others can make their interpretations before you discuss your own.

Although this article will reveal the strategy of our work at the newspaper, the questions raised about the report published by this paper yesterday call on us to reveal this strategy. Our words will be concise and brief because the issue, which deals with a group of Iraqi renegades, does not deserve greater space in the newspaper.

We say the following: Since we are the owners of rights, and since we, the genuine Iraqis, are the owners of the cause, we can differentiate between what is true and what is false. Truth has one face while falsehood has many faces. The true face remains firm throughout the ages and history, while the false face continuously changes. The devil has taken the form of idols, such as the Lat and 'Uzza [principal idols of pagan Arab idolatry]. At other times, the devil became a group of Tatars to obliterate the Islamic and Arab identity. At still other times, the devil took the form of British and French colonialism. Finally, the devil has taken the shape of the Americans. One fact, however, remains the same; namely, the reality of the nation, the reality of the land, and the reality of the honest and righteous sons of this nation.

The primary purpose for publishing the report on the so-called Iraqi opposition in the paper is to make them, as well as others, understand that we fear nothing. Evidence of this fact is that we have published in our country their statement and the outline of their meeting.

What is more important is that we do not want a segment of the Iraqi population to act as it did during the 45-day aggression when people kept searching for radio stations to listen to the news. Those Iraqis might have been the victims of the poisonous news and analyses of these stations.

We would like to remind the so-called opposition—in accordance with the Koranic verse: Therefore give admonition in case the admonition profits the hearer—that Sa'd [not further identified] is the son of Salih Jabr who is known by every 40-year old Iraqi. The Iraqis know his ill-reputed history and his role in the Portsmouth Treaty with British Foreign Minister Bevan [in January 1948]. The Iraqis also know that, during the January uprising against this treaty, Salih Jabr was the one who ordered the police to fire at the Iraqi people, consequently filling the hospitals with student martyrs.

In one of our articles, we reminded the Iraqis of a question addressed to Nuri al-Sa'id. Nuri al-Sa'id was asked: "Who has the longest record of agency, you or Salih Jabr?" Al-Sa'id's answer was: "When the British order me to do something, I do it. But Salih Jabr goes by himself to the British, tells them what should be done, and says: Do you want me to do this or not."

Regrettably, some Iraqis do not know about part of the personal life of Salah 'Umar al-'Ali [not further identified]. However, I call on all Iraqis to ask the citizens of Tikrit—women, old men, and youths—about the moral personal life of Salah 'Umar al-'Ali or the 'Umar al-'Ali family in order to know what kind of people those renegades are.

As for the abundance of the black turbans, whose owners claim that they represent the opposition in the south, we say that their loyalties to and affiliations with Iran define their identities. We want to ask: Is there anyone of them who cannot speak Persian? Do they not claim that they are Iraqis and Arabs? So, let us ask whether anyone of them speaks Persian or not.

These renegades do not have our weight in the conflict, especially in light of the fact that the whole world was a witness to our weight when we confronted 30 states, 40 states according to some reports. In order to guide those renegades to the means of underground work, in order to teach them and to stop them from being mere gangs, and in order to teach them so that their weight might be one-tenth of that of a state like Sierra Leone, we say: Underground action begins from within the country itself. Saddam Husayn was sentenced to death, but he remained in Iraq. He was arrested and imprisoned, waiting for the execution of the sentence, but he escaped. This is the peak of faith. We say that working from across the border must be done through pure affiliation to Iraq and not under the umbrella of anyone, even if the reason for doing so is financial or the result of the need for a land from which to work. In any case, convictions must be firm. Such is the case with the Mojahedin-e Khalq. Its convictions have never changed and it has maintained

its national Iranian affiliation; it has never been under the umbrellas of Saudi Arabia, Britain, or America.

The other important thing that I want to say, which is not an interpretation but a norm, is: The tool of all political changes in the Iraqi arena has been the armed forces. There is no one who has come from outside the country and assumed power.

Regarding the issue of Saddam Husayn and his regime: When it was desired for them to believe that Saddam Husayn does not exist, the Iraqis in particular have seen what happened in the south in terms of the violation of honor, theft, murder, and plundering in the streets; and what happened in the north—how despicable people became leaders, how the north became fragmented, how people's possessions were plundered, and how the infrastructure there was destroyed in such a way that when the state thinks of reconstructing what has been destroyed, it will take dozens of years to rebuild the infrastructure before building the superstructure. Saddam Husayn now is not only the hope of Iraq and the people of Iraq, but also the hope of the nation and the symbol of the struggle of nationalists and freemen. He is the dividing point between either the beginning of a new phase of a bright history or the continuation of the years of darkness the country has experienced. All that we have to say to the renegades is what the ancient Arabs have said: "An injurer shall not bring injury save on himself."

'Uday Summarizes Journalist Union Objectives

JN1506183792 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Excerpts] Mr. 'Uday Saddam Husayn, president of the Iraqi Journalists Association, has stated: We are intent that the Iraqi journalist should assume his full role and standing in the coming stage. We strongly emphasize this role and its important effects on the country's life and future.

In a statement to INA on the occasion of the 123d anniversary of Iraqi Press Day, Mr. 'Uday Saddam Husayn said that this year's celebration coincides with two important events. The first is leader President Saddam Husayn's generous acts of granting land to all Iraqi journalists for the purpose of housing and of increasing the wages of the workers in newspapers and other media by 25 percent. The second event is the fact that this year has witnessed the largest and most accurate democratic practice as represented by the elections of the Association's General Center. [passage omitted]

The president of the Journalist Association summarized the objectives of the Association in the upcoming stage as follows: protecting and safeguarding the freedom of expression, watching and uprooting unhealthy phenomena, improving the social and living conditions of the community of journalists, and working to promote

and upgrade the Iraqi press so that it can assume its appropriate role and size on both the local and Arab level. [passage omitted]

Further Reportage on Opposition Group Activities

Attacks on Government 'Henchmen'

NC1106152992 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious
Iraq in Arabic 1321 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Our popular forces have stepped up their operations against the regime's henchmen and his corrupt apparatuses in order to boost the steadfastness of the uprising's heroes in the al-'Amarah marshlands and retaliate against the inhuman practices of the hateful 'Aflaqite executioners against our people.

Following are the details of some of our valiant forces' operations:

1. A few days ago our popular forces ambushed a boat belonging to the forces of reckless Saddam between the (al-Masab) and (al-Sulaymi) in the al-Basrah marshlands. The boat was destroyed and six of its crew, including two officers, were killed.

2. A heroic popular group attacked a military convoy belonging to the remnants of Saddam's army on the road between al-Rumaylah and al-Basrah, inflicting losses in equipment and lives. It was ascertained that 30 troops were killed in the operation, a vehicle was destroyed, and some weapons were confiscated.

3. A valiant group of strugglers inflicted a just punishment on the criminal Jabbar Hassun in al-Qushlah in al-Samawah. This criminal had links with 'Aflaqite terrorist agencies and had carried out numerous crimes against our people on 'Aflaqite orders in this and other areas.

Relying on God's power, our masses will pursue the path of jihad until our people's aspiration for deliverance from Saddam's corrupt regime is fulfilled. The men of the popular uprising, the Islamic uprising's mujahidin, and all the good people of chaste Mesopotamia will continue the process of meting out just punishment in order to establish right, eliminate 'Aflaqite vileness, and prove to the whole world that we reject the regime of the corrupt criminal Saddam. God willing, the execution of the people's will against all those wallowing in the mud of Saddamist corruption will continue.

During the past few days, with the power of the exalted and Almighty God, the people's judgment was carried out against the following criminals:

1. Hassun 'Abdallah, assistant chief of the 4th Army Corps intelligence apparatus. The punishment was inflicted in Kuwait in al-'Amarah.

2. A group of our people who follow the example of the martyr al-Sadr, may he rest in God's pleasure, attacked a

Saddamist intelligence center at the al-Huwayy-al-Qurmah junction and inflicted a just punishment on the criminal Sattar Hasan Jari, the criminal 'Abd-al-Imam Fartush, the criminal Shu'lan, the criminal Iman 'Uwayyid, the criminal Rahim Mukhtad, the criminal assistant chief of the 11th Division intelligence apparatus, and the criminal Hashim Sayyid Zir'awi.

In al-Basrah our mujahidin discovered a criminal woman who had sold her conscience to the criminal 'Aflaqites and worked as a despicable and immoral member of the intelligence service. Just punishment was inflicted on her.

They are all consigned to a miserable abode in hell.

'Dozens of Civilians' Killed by Regime

NC1106205592 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi
People in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] The ostracized tyrant's regime is continuing its military plan to destroy the villages and cities of the south. The (Muray'an) area in (al-Mudaynah) district in al-Basrah Governorate recently came under attack by the tyrant's forces. Dozens of civilians were killed.

Informed sources reported that the ostracized tyrant's regime used armed helicopters in attacking the area, while the Saddam regime's agents burned the houses in (Muray'an), killing women and children.

The area was the target of a savage military campaign by tyrant Saddam Husayn's forces on 17 May in an attempt to force the inhabitants there to leave their homes.

'Victorious' Operations Against Regime

NC1206140692 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious
Iraq in Arabic 1315 GMT 12 Jun 92

[Text] The following victorious operations against the tyrant have taken place during the past few days:

1. Our heroic mujahidin ('attacked) a command post for the regime along [words indistinct], killing and wounding the 'Aflaqites inside it.

2. In the same area between (al-Jadiy) and (al-Shattaniyah), our revolutionaries attacked an enemy military patrol, killing its three members.

3. Later on the same night of the previous operation and in the same area, another group ambushed a military vehicle of the 'Aflaqite mercenaries. The vehicle was heavily damaged and its passengers were seriously injured. All our groups returned safely to base, with God's help.

Opposition Claims Attack on Regime Post

NC1406181192 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious
Iraq in Arabic 1320 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Our brave mujahidin on 24 May launched a successful raid on Iraqi armored vehicles at an outpost in

the al-Sa'idyah area of 'Ali al-Gharbi district, al-'Amarah Governorate, inflicting casualties on the force deployed in the region. They returned safely to base, praise be to God.

Command Post Stormed, Detainees Freed

*LD1506203892 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic
1700 GMT 15 Jun 92*

[Text] In a statement released in Vienna today, an Iraqi opposition group stated that groups of the opposition popular forces stormed a military command post in the al-Ashraf [al-Najaf] at the end of last month. They managed to penetrate deep into the post and to control it for well over one hour.

The statement, which was issued by the information center of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution

in Iraq, added that the operation was a great success, and resulted in the death of a large number of officers of the Iraqi regime's forces.

The statement said the popular forces managed during this assault to secure the release of a large number of detainees who were held in the prison there. They also seized quantities of light weapons.

The statement of the Iraqi opposition noted that military operations against the forces of the Iraqi regime are being stepped up. It reported the death of an intelligence sergeant in an ambush by the popular forces in the al-Jazirah area in Baghdad.

The statement also noted another operation carried out by the popular resistance, in which another sergeant in the security service of the Iraqi regime in al-Nasiriyah Province was killed.

Further Reportage on Gorbachev Visit, Statements

Gorbachev on Peace Process

TA1506173792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1205 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Report by Gid'on Remez on an interview with Mikhail Gorbachev conducted by Isabella Ginor at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem on 14 June, carried within the "Foreign Affairs Newsreel" program—recorded]

[Text] The question of Syria did not feature in the interview we conducted last night with Mikhail Gorbachev upon his return to the King David Hotel from his meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. He looked relaxed and remarkably fresh after a tiring day, which included the flight from Moscow. He told Isabella Ginor that he had been invited to visit several Arab countries at the end of his visit to Israel but that Syria had conspicuously abstained from issuing such an invitation.

Gorbachev began: During the Moscow peace talks I met many representatives from the Middle East, including your foreign minister, Mr. Levi, who called on me at the Gorbachev Foundation. Today we met again as partners. There is a great deal of mutual understanding between us; Levi's thoughts are close to mine. During the Moscow talks I also conferred with the foreign ministers of Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and other Arab countries. An idea was raised then: Perhaps Mikhail Gorbachev, in his capacity as president of the Gorbachev Foundation and former cosponsor of the peace conference in its early stages, will find the time to visit this region. Such a visit could be beneficial, since there are many old-time partners with whom I worked for many years. Indeed, today I raised the issue once again with Mr. Shamir. I must point out that Shamir also voiced his interest. It seems to me that work continues on the basis of previous agreements. So, I will have to think about planning such a trip to the Middle East: how to carry it out, how comprehensive it should be, should I make separate trips to each country or visit all of them in one trip—these are all tactical questions.

In other words, Isabella Ginor continued, you are being offered the job of mediator. Will you accede to the request? No, no, Gorbachev said, not as long as the peace conference continues. I would not add other mediation frameworks, whether these involve Mikhail Gorbachev or some other reputable person. The conference process must be encouraged in every possible way.

I asked your leaders today whether optimism in Israel had grown or declined. The Israeli leaders replied that in spite of everything their optimism had grown. The process will not be very easy, Gorbachev predicted, and this is borne out by the rounds of talks that have already been held. However, the fact remains that people get together and listen to each other. Occasionally the positions of the one are not to the liking of the other, but the process is nevertheless alive and I welcome this. In my opinion, there is no need at this point to add an artificial

element in the form of a mediator. However, this does not mean that people who can make a personal contribution by taking advantage of relations of camaraderie and friendship should not visit this or another country to meet people and, as politicians say, to go over ideas and to hold brainstorming sessions about the most difficult problems. In meetings I held at various foundations in the United States—you know how influential they are—it was openly suggested that the Gorbachev Foundation assume a practical role in the Middle East.

What project was suggested to the Gorbachev Foundation? To design the nature of collective security once the Middle East conflict has been settled, Gorbachev said. People think a great deal about it; they agonize over the problem of the Middle East. They consider the peace process very important and perceive it as having global impact. This would provide the Gorbachev Foundation with work. The foundation could accept this proposal and draw ideas from the Middle East—from the Arabs and from Israel—and from European experts to start the process. Even in that event, the main process is the peace conference itself. The structure of the future peace, of the collective security and the attendant guarantees for Israel and the Arabs must be sought within this process, which should not be downtrodden or abused. There is no need to come up with all sorts of stratagems because these can only be destructive, whatever the case may be.

Have the Palestinian representatives tried to meet with you during your visit here, Isabella continued? Documents publicized in Moscow recently linked you with their organizations. Did you voice your wish to meet with them? Gorbachev replied: I have not had any contacts with them so far, but I keep in touch all the time. I must say that I did not like so much the Palestinian position during the Gulf war, and they are well aware of this. In my opinion, they lost by it, in that behaviors which cannot only devastate this region but the entire world cannot be permitted. Nations had to rally in order to create a buffer and take control of the situation.

At the same time, Gorbachev candidly admitted, we thought that Iraq should remain a state and its people should not be massacred. Both these processes took place simultaneously, and the PLO—or at least its leaders—could have taken a far more constructive stance in this respect.

Admittedly, this was the PLO's prerogative and it ultimately was the Palestinians' own business. They made their political choices, knowing they would be called upon to explain their positions—and this is what they must do today. I say this because this is how I see things. However, events in the Soviet Union last fall evolved into such a whirlwind that attention to some aspects of foreign policy, including issues such as contacts and meetings, truly decreased—Gorbachev was probably referring to the Middle East.

I met Palestinians a long time ago. Now I have other problems and worries and my plans have changed—Gorbachev's spokesman told us that he does not plan to meet with Palestinians in the course of his visit in Israel. Even the Palestinian delegates who meet any visiting distinguished guest have not requested an audience with the former Soviet president.

In view of your warm welcoming remarks upon your arrival in Israel, one question is self-evident: Why is your visit taking place only now? Why did it not happen when you were president? Gorbachev replied: This issue, too, I discussed with Prime Minister Shamir. In my opinion, this situation was neither natural nor normal. We should have put an end to a state of affairs whereby for almost 25 years there were no relations between our two countries. However, I think this was the consequence of the confrontation between two worlds or, to be more precise, the division of the world between two systems, two camps engaged in a political confrontation which led to an arms race: who produces more weapons and who manufactures the tools to destroy all of us or at least one another. Many people fell victim to this conflict: regions, countries, nations, and the Middle East in which all processes always are more complicated than elsewhere. All this began after World War II, as the world and your country began rebuilding. Israel encountered other influences and processes which prevented it from pursuing a natural development whereby it could have lived in harmony with the interests of other nations and could have enjoyed normal cooperation and coexistence. All this took place during this long period.

Almost echoing the Soviet propaganda of the time, Gorbachev said: When I rose to power the situation I encountered was that the cards had already been dealt; they were on the table because of the processes which had been going on in our country. I proceeded to handle this problem thoroughly, and I believe that I soon managed to change the Soviet attitude toward Israel to a better level and then to a better one yet, as far as the resumption of normal relations is concerned, and also to lay the human and democratic foundations to enable people to make up their minds—meaning, to make up their minds whether to stay in the Soviet Union or to immigrate to Israel. Ultimately, man and the earth that gave birth to him are the most important things on this planet, and that is why he should be given the right to choose.

Should we assume that the delay in the resumption of relations between our two countries had to do with those cards; in other words, the perception of the Soviet leadership? Gorbachev replied: Yes, I am sure of it. It had to do with the global confrontation. This is not the only conflict that evolved as a result of this situation; many problems can be attributed to it. This state of affairs deprived the Soviet Union of a channel of communication and influence, in the Middle East as well. After all, this only narrowed Moscow's diplomatic and political range of action. However, at one time politicians thought differently than we think today.

Was there any pressure on the part of the Arab countries on this issue? Well, it was not that simple, Gorbachev said. We tried to act in a way that would not tip the balance; that would create a mutual understanding with Israel, with its leaders and its people; and that would make the Arab leaders and peoples realize that all our actions and proposals were only meant to normalize relations, that all this was necessary in order to pursue a solution to the conflict.

It had to be discussed at great length. Gorbachev said by way of explaining the delay in the resumption of relations with Israel until almost the end of his term in power. We had to argue our case, in the Politburo, in the cabinet, with friends, and with Israel's leadership. The negotiations continued, and we would occasionally assess the situation, check the options, and examine conditions with a realistic eye. There was goodwill on all sides; otherwise nothing would have succeeded.

Which Politburo members objected to the move, we inquired? Well, it is not a question of individuals, Gorbachev said. As was the case with other issues, the Politburo regarded such a move as a concession to U.S. influence. Politburo members argued that the State of Israel does not want to enter a dialogue and that it chooses to ignore realistic problems. That is why those people dragged their feet on the question of the resumption of relations. You know, Gorbachev told Isabella Ginor, they would always cite the same reasons; the same old problems were mentioned time and again.

Similar to his statement upon returning from captivity in the Crimea, Gorbachev stated: Having said that, I would not regard the Politburo as a fossil. It has made some progress all the same on this and other questions, but it was an arduous process. This means that all the difficulties, including those related to the resumption of relations with Israel, came from us.

To the question of whether his visit to Israel could have taken place if he were still president of the Soviet Union, Gorbachev said: Certainly; I even discussed the issue when I met in Madrid with Mr. Shamir and his entourage. We had good and meaningful talks. Our meeting did not feel as if it was the first. I had no hang-ups or inhibitions about it.

What are your plans after your visit to Israel? This question provided Gorbachev with the opportunity to elaborate on his world view. Well, the main thing is the Gorbachev Foundation. I think it is very important because the world is approaching a compelling landmark. We have emerged from the cold war, but look how many dangers are looming over us. It is important that politicians should not lose their bearings; never mind that there are already signs of that. This is the worst of all, this is what is bad with the move from one system to another, however miserable it may have been. It impoverished us, brought us to the brink of war, and pilfered our resources—incidentally, I am talking about the cold war, not about communism. Such a move calls for a

transition period, which is not as easy as opening a door; not at all, it is a serious transition. Interestingly enough, the people in charge of the transition are the same people who conducted the previous policy. The only difference is that they now disassociate themselves from their previous positions, Gorbachev said.

Will it be simple to move the world into a new era? Not at all, we may very well lose our way and there might be misunderstandings. There is always the fear that things might get worse. What if there is chaos and a real catastrophe befalls us? That is why we should take action today. Taking action means rallying the intellectual forces of human civilization to formulate recommendations for the politicians. We might pay with our lives or with the life of the entire planet for political errors in this period of transition. That is why the Gorbachev Foundation and the work I decided to do—by the way, I got very good feedback from politicians, scientists, and sister foundations around the world—all these activities are the main thing.

Calls For Compromise With Syria

TA1506133292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1205 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Report by Hayim Hecht on interview with Mikhail Gorbachev during sailing trip in Lake Tiberias on 15 June, within the "Foreign Affairs Newsreel" program—recorded]

[Excerpt] I joined the Gorbachevs aboard the Lido on a sailing trip along the shores of Lake Tiberias. Mikhail and Raisa sat on the upper deck, sipping juice and munching cherries and grapes. As if I were a Foreign Ministry public relations officer, I pointed to the Golan Heights and told the former president: There is the Golan Heights, sitting right atop the settlements in the Jordan Valley. Do you think that to attain peace with the Syrians Israel will be forced to cede this territory?

If the sides do not meet each other halfway, Gorbachev said, nothing will come of it; I have a great deal of experience with the issue. As far as the Golan Heights are concerned, Gorbachev stressed, there can be no victors or vanquished; you must enter a dialogue in order to attain coexistence.

You and President Bush were the cosponsors who brought President al-Asad to the negotiating table, I said. Did you promise him the Golan Heights in exchange, I asked? Gorbachev's elusive answer was: I suggest to you not to build scenarios that will only exacerbate the conflict; the situation is complicated as it is.

I asked him: During your time and your predecessors' time in office, do you recall President al-Asad asking for Soviet approval to launch a war against Israel? I can recall meetings and contacts with President al-Asad, but I cannot confirm that information, Gorbachev told me, as he grabbed the microphone to add: Moreover,

although he is quite a formidable negotiator, al-Asad is definitely a responsible statesman. [passage omitted]

Receives Award, Notes Cooperation

TA1606051692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English
0400 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will today visit Yad Vashem, the memorial to victims of the Nazi Holocaust. Last night at the Haifa Technion, he was awarded the prestigious Harvey Prize. He expressed satisfaction over sharing this honor with previous recipients, including Albert Einstein, David Ben-Gurion, and Margaret Thatcher. From Haifa, Sylvia Leif reports:

Mikhail Gorbachev received a standing ovation at the Technion last night when mention was made of his efforts towards peace and for easing the restrictions on the exit of Jews from Russia. Gorbachev said in his address to the audience that he hoped and prayed the new Russia would play an honorable role in obtaining a just arrangement in the Middle East. [Gorbachev speaks in Russian followed by Leif's translation] He expressed his certainty that it will be easier for her to succeed since the substantial changes in relations between Russia and Israel. I am completely convinced, he said, that cooperation between Russia and Israel has a great future. He said one possible application of such cooperation is environmentally clean technological development, intended for developing countries.

About anti-Semitism in Russia, Gorbachev said: You must know the democratic Russian public rejects and denounces anti-Semitism and will do everything in its power to uproot the phenomenon from our society. It should also be noted, he added, that anti-Semitism is helpless before the rising tide of Jewish-Russian cooperation in science and culture. He warned, though, that both sides must ensure that the exit of Jews from Russia does not reduce the power of this tide for the Russian side. He advised that no insults, disadvantages, or past crimes must be allowed to disturb the unique phenomenon: the exchange of cultures and talents between the two countries.

Russia Agrees to Emigration via El Al, Aeroflot

TA1406174892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1600 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The Russians have removed their objections to having immigrants fly to Israel aboard regular El Al and Aeroflot flights. An agreement to that effect was signed today by the two countries.

Officials Comment on Nonproliferation, Arms Race

Levi—"Free World" Should Curb Syria, Iran

TA1506172892 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew
1700 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Foreign Minister David Levi said it is the obligation of the free world to curb Syria's and Iran's military

buildup. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports that Minister Levi made these remarks in a meeting with Francois Leotard, leader of the French Republican Party. Minister Levi warned the Palestinians not to play with fire and thus to waste the opportunity given to them to decide their own future.

Arens on 'Terror' From Lebanon

TA1606085792 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 16 Jun 92 p 12

[Report by Tzvi Singer]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Defense Minister Moshe Arens represented the government at a memorial ceremony for the fallen IDF [Israel Defense Forces] of the Lebanon war held on Mount Herzl in Jerusalem yesterday.

In his address, Arens said: "When the IDF went into the Lebanon war, Lebanon was controlled by terror organizations, and Israel's residents suffered daily terror attacks and casualties."

"In the Peace for Galilee war," Arens added, "we paid a heavy price to make sure that the children of Qiryat Shemona, Misgav 'Am, and Nahariyya live in peace and security. Since the Lebanon war, almost no Israeli citizen was hurt as a result of a terror act coming from Lebanon."

"The campaign against terrorism in Lebanon is not over. Terror organizations still operate against Israel from southern Lebanon. The Syrian and Lebanese Governments are responsible for these acts of terror. Israel expects these governments to use their influence to curb terrorism."

Answering reporters' questions after the ceremony, Minister Arens said that the whole world should be concerned by the Iranian attempts to obtain nuclear arms and the Syrian attempts to obtain chemical weapons.

Arens called for international pressure on these two countries to stop their nonconventional arsenal buildup.

IAF Chief on Future Projects, U.S. Role

TA1506141892 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
15 Jun 92 p 2

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Text] Within less than a year, the Air Force will select its future battle aircraft, deciding between the F-16 and F-18. By then, it will have carried out all the tests necessary for the decision. These remarks were made yesterday by Major General Herzl Bodinger, the Air Force commander. He added that the future procurement deal will stand at about \$2 billion. "If the Air Force was not tied by the U.S. military aid funds, we would review every aircraft available throughout the world and examine their suitability to our needs. It could be worthwhile to purchase the Russian MiG-29, in which we would introduce our avionics," he said.

According to Bodinger, since the U.S. military aid does exist, the Air Force is channeled into buying uniquely U.S.-made aircraft, namely the F-16's, which are already employed by the Air Force, and the F-18's. "We are channeled into buying aircraft with canteen coupons," he added.

The Air Force chief noted that the future battle aircraft must excel in performance at night and under various weather conditions, as well as in long-range operations.

By the end of the summer, the Air Force will conclude the theoretical stage of data collection, and by the end of 1992, the two planes will be inspected by pilots who will conduct test flights and examine the data. Early in 1993, the Air Force will advise the chief of staff which plane is recommended for purchase.

Asked whether the Lavi project should be reopened, Bodinger said that a totally dismantled project cannot be resurrected.

Referring to the Arrow project, Bodinger said that it should be pursued as long as it is financed by the Americans. According to him, the Arrow development will contribute to the Israeli defense industries. "Even if the missile is not manufactured in the end, no financial damage will have been caused even if all the Americans eventually get is the missile's warhead," he said.

Bodinger revealed that if the U.S. antimissile missile is developed before the Arrow, the Arrow will be accorded a lower priority by the Americans and its continued development will be doubtful. He added that if the U.S. missile is indeed developed, Israel will be able to obtain it for self-defense in the framework of the U.S. aid funds.

Gen. Bodinger warned that any cut in the U.S. aid would create a most serious problem for the security of the State of Israel. "The search for alternatives would take us a long time. It would be a serious burden on the national economy, and certainly, the Army's needs would not be met, and that would weaken the Army," he said.

Bodinger—U.S. 'Not Doing Enough'

TA1506185792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English
1700 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] The commander of Israel's Air Force [IAF] says the United States is not doing enough to stop nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. The statement, which followed Major General Herzl Bodinger's remarks yesterday about the danger of Iran acquiring a nuclear weapon, was made at a news conference for foreign correspondents to mark Air Force Day. But first he elaborated on his remarks about Iran and Syria getting nuclear weapons:

[Begin recording] [Bodinger] If countries in the region—like Iran, Libya, and other countries—will have nuclear weapons, this can endanger the whole area. And a kind of war that can take part in this area and use nuclear weapons can later deteriorate into a world war position.

If we will have any kind of report that any country in the region is getting close to get a nuclear ability, it should be looked after and we should first try to work against that by political means. With that I mean the United Nations, all kind of international negotiations. And, if this doesn't work, we may consider an attack. The intelligence information that we have is that these countries, especially Iran, strive very hard to get this ability. We think, according to the information that we have, that if nothing is done within a decade or so Iran will have an ability of nuclear weapons.

If the United States, I think, can do something. I think, yes, they should do.

[Unidentified correspondent] Are they doing enough?

[Bodinger] Right now I don't think they are doing enough. [end recording]

Incidents in Territories; 14,000 Gazans Exit 15 Jun

TA1506195592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English
1700 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Masked men shot and killed a resident of Khan Yunus suspected of cooperating with Israeli authorities. The assailants shot the man, Jamal al-Astal, at short range.

Near Ramallah, a soldier was hurt by flying glass when stones were thrown at a bus passing the al-Am'ari refugee camp. He was treated at a nearby military clinic.

A Molotov cocktail was thrown this afternoon at an Israeli Army observation post in the town of Nabulus. No one was hurt and no damage was caused. Soldiers on duty managed to capture a young man they suspect of having thrown the petrol bomb.

Israeli soldiers and police have uncovered a store room near Ramallah containing thousands of shekels and stolen farming equipment, petrol bombs and Army uniforms. Twenty-five residents of Bayt Liqya were detained. Israeli authorities suspect the detainees defrauded tax collectors to the tune of 600,000 shekels.

The Association of Civil Rights and residents of the al-Nusayrat refugee camp in the Gaza Strip have petitioned the Supreme Court to end the three-week-old closure of the refugee camp. While the closure was eased for residents of the rest of the Gaza Strip, al-Nusayrat has remained sealed since the stabbing of a 15-year-old girl from Bat Yam last month. A resident of al-Nusayrat is being held in connection with the incident. The petitioners say Israeli authorities are violating international law by preventing the residents from making a living.

[Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew at 1815 GMT on 15 June reports that "over 14,000 laborers from the Gaza Strip reported to their jobs in Israel today." Although this is "only half the number of laborers who used to cross into Israel prior to the closure," the correspondent

notes that "the situation has thus returned to what it used to be, and every laborer over the age of 25 is now permitted to leave for work in Israel."]

Settlers continue to block the road to the Kfar Darom settlement in the Gaza Strip despite efforts by police to remove them. The settlers are protesting what they say is the Army's decision to stop building a fence around Kfar Darom. They say the Army is concerned that Arab residents of the area on whose land the fence will be situated will take legal action against Israel. The head of the Hof 'Aza local council, Tzvi Handel, says Israeli officers promised the fence would go up.

Police Block Settlers; Murder in West Bank

TA1606045192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English
0400 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Police and troops early this morning dispersed the Kfar Darom residents who had been blocking the main Gaza Strip road outside their settlement since yesterday morning. The settlers engaged in passive resistance, and six of them were detained for questioning.

In the north, police twice turned back settlers trying to reach Ginat, 7 km north of Janin. Fifty settlers were stopped as they approached from Megiddo, and later seven were turned back as they approached the site from 'Afula. Ginat is currently occupied by the Nahal Army Corps, and the government has announced its intention of turning the place into a civilian settlement.

Another Palestinian has been murdered, apparently on suspicion of collaborating with the Israeli authorities. Muhammad Shatawi, aged 34, from Kafr Qaddum near Nabulus, was shot and critically wounded and died shortly afterwards in a Nabulus hospital.

On the Bethlehem-Hebron road near Solomon's Pools, a firebomb was thrown at a passing Israeli car, but it missed and no one was hurt. Another firebomb was thrown at an Army position in the village of 'Azzun near Tulkarm. It ignited outside the position; no one was hurt.

Desalination Plant Planned For Gaza, South Israel

TA1506200092 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT
in Hebrew 15 Jun 92 pp 1, 19

[Report by Nurit Arad]

[Text] A water desalination plant, the first of its kind in the region, will be built in the Gaza Strip at a cost of \$250 million. It will supply drinking water to Jewish and Arab locations in the Gaza Strip and to southern Israel.

This was recently decided by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who is also the agriculture minister. The plant will initially produce 40 million cubic meters of water a year.

Shmu'el Slavin, the prime minister's economic adviser, yesterday confirmed the existence of such a decision. He noted that although it was not yet clear whether the plant would be established in Gaza or near Kibbutz Ziqim, it would in any event supply water to the Gaza Strip.

To build the plant Israel will put out an international tender and the decision on the desalination method to be used will be made according to its results. "The issue is not yet closed," Slavin said.

Neither is it clear how the project will be financed, whether the winner would have to invest the entire sum from his own money or he would be given a state loan. The first option—with the state pledging to buy from the builder the entire amount of water that is produced for a prearranged sum—is favored.

As said, the plant would initially produce 40 million cubic meters of desalinated water a year to be distributed as follows: 15 million cubic meters to the city of Gaza and other Arab locations in the Gaza Strip, and 25 million cubic meters to Israeli settlements in the area. The Gaza Strip would gradually consume larger amounts of water from the plant.

Although the desalination method has not yet been decided, it is already known that the plant would have its own power station, that is, an independent energy supply. The building of this power station, too, would apparently be financed by private investors.

Replying to a question, sources familiar with the issue said yesterday that the decision is in no way related to the upcoming elections and has no political bearing on the region or on future plans for the Gaza Strip. "People need unlimited amounts of water. Water will be produced and sold. Water is the element linking all the residents of the region," one source said.

It should be noted in this context that the bilateral talks with Jordan on the question of water have made more progress than the talks with other countries. The water situation in Jordan is problematic and it is the only Arab country in the region that has no water.

The long-term solution would be for Israel and Jordan to desalinate water together, the sources said. "Jordan has no access to the Mediterranean Sea, and that is why it cannot desalinate water on its own—hint, hint," the sources added.

Chronology of German Hostages' Release

Kidnappers Issue Statement

NC1606054192 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0445 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpts] The presidential office in al-Ramla al-Bayda' is due to be the site of two developments today: First, an extraordinary Cabinet session devoted to discussing the parliamentary elections bill, some of the articles of which were amended during yesterday's meeting. Second, the still unconfirmed planned release of the two German hostages Thomas Kemptner and Heinrich Struebig within the next few hours. The kidnappers—if they are telling the truth—announced last night that they will hand over the two hostages at the presidential palace at midday today. Previously, hostages were handed over at the headquarters of the Syrian intelligence service at the Beau Rivage Hotel in Beirut or in Damascus.

The kidnappers sent a statement in Arabic to the offices of a Western news agency in Beirut, expressing willingness to release the two hostages within 48 hours. The statement, which was accompanied by a color photograph of the two hostages, read: As a result of positive efforts by Lebanon, Syria, and Iran to resolve the issue of the Hammadi brothers and the two German agents, we will release the two hostages at the Lebanese presidential office within 48 hours.

The kidnappers asked that representatives of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, the United Nations, and the German Government should arrive at the temporary presidential office in al-Ramla al-Bayda' before the deadline for the release.

The statement added that the Mujahidin for Freedom Organization will not ease up in its efforts until brothers Muhammad and 'Abbas Hammadi are released. They are serving prison sentences in Germany on terrorism charges. [passage omitted]

REUTER cited security sources in Beirut as saying that the two hostages were handed over to Lebanese and Syrian security officials shortly after the Mujahidin's statement was issued. AFP, however, cited Lebanese and Syrian sources as saying that the two hostages are still in the kidnappers' hands. [passage omitted]

A source close to one of the Lebanese mediators reported that the Hammadi family agreed to release the two hostages after receiving Iranian, Lebanese, and Syrian assurances that Germany will reexamine the Hammadi brothers' case on humanitarian grounds.

Al-Hirawi Said To Hand Over Hostages

LD1606113692 Hamburg ARD Television Network
in German 1100 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Excerpt] This evening a three-year drama will come to an end. The two German hostages, Thomas Kemptner and Heinrich Struebig, are to land at Cologne-Bonn

Airport. The agencies do not yet know exactly when. Perhaps our correspondent Patrick Leclercq already knows more, which is why we have telephoned Damascus. Hello, Patrick Leclercq.
[Leclercq] Hello, I can hear you.

[Announcer] Where are the hostages at this moment; that is, at 1305?

[Leclercq] The hostages must at this moment be on the way to the airport. They were handed over a short time ago by Lebanese President al-Hirawi to Minister of State Schmidbauer. They are reportedly in good physical shape and so they can be flown out immediately. A Bundeswehr aircraft stands ready, meaning they could arrive in the FRG late this afternoon.

[Announcer] In the late afternoon, then, and not as first thought in the evening?

[Leclercq] Well, no one can say for certain. It is possible that there are still some bureaucratic formalities to be dealt with. It may be that there will still have to be negotiations with the Syrian authorities, or there could be problems with flight authorizations. But in principle, the hostages [words indistinct] arrive at Cologne-Bonn. [passage omitted]

Transfer 'Postponed'

NC1606141492 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1404 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] The hand over of the two German hostages to the German state minister—which was scheduled to be held at the Presidential Office this afternoon—was postponed until tomorrow due to difficulties that cropped up at the last minute. This was reported today by Lebanese and German sources after the German minister held a lengthy meeting with President Ilyas al-Hirawi. Following the meeting, the German minister said in a statement: The tribulation of the two detained Germans is almost over. He conveyed his government's thanks to President al-Hirawi; Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni; Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh; former Prime Minister 'Umar Karami; and the members of the ministerial committee charged with following up on the hostage issue, who cooperated with all governments in the region to support us.

Buwayz Predicts Syrian Redeployment 'This Summer'

NC1506165392 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1530 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] In an interview published today in the Saudi newspaper AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz predicted that the Syrian Army will redeploy in al-Biqa' by the end of this summer, as the two-year period noted in the al-Ta'if accord draws to an end.

Buwayz said that the accord's clause about constitutional reform largely has been implemented and that the cease-fire clause also has been fulfilled. The foreign minister

noted that militias disbanded 98 percent of their personnel and handed over their large- and medium-caliber weapons to the state. Only light weapons remain in the hands of the militias, and even these weapons are confined to the section adjacent to the occupied border strip.

Buwayz said only one part of al-Ta'if accord remains to be implemented—the one on extending the state's sovereignty and the subsequent redeployment of the Syrian Army in al-Biqā'. The foreign minister expressed his belief that this segment is being implemented by the Syrian forces, noting that there is significant redeployment going on in Lebanon.

Iran To Release 40 Lebanese War Prisoners

NC1606095792 *Shanayh Voice of the Mountain*
in Arabic 0900 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh this morning met Iranian Charge d'Affaires Homa'yūn 'Alizadeh, who said after the meeting: We discussed various issues concerning relations between both countries and ways to strengthen them. We informed al-Sulh of the Islamic Republic's interest in the hardships and problems facing the Lebanese people, particularly our kin in the south and western al-Biqā'. We also discussed the situation in these two regions in light of the Israeli aggressions against them.

'Alizadeh pointed out that an Iranian aircraft carrying aid to the Lebanese people had arrived at Beirut Airport. He said he also told the prime minister that within the next two weeks his country will release 40 Lebanese citizens taken prisoner during the Iran-Iraq war.

Al-Sulh Meets Vatican Official, Views Economy

NC1606114792 *Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic*
1030 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh, followed by answers to questions by unidentified correspondents, after his meeting with Vatican envoy Cardinal Silvestrini at Government House in Beirut on 16 June—recorded]

[Text] [al-Sulh] I held a long meeting with Cardinal Silvestrini and his delegation. We discussed several issues, including the south and its liberation from Israeli occupation. We asked him for the pope's assistance, in view of his strong spiritual and moral authority in the world, to pressure the international community so they might in turn pressure Israel to implement Resolution 425 and withdraw from southern Lebanon. We also discussed the issue of coexistence among the Lebanese, which all Lebanese want to safeguard and maintain.

[Correspondent] Mr. Prime Minister, some parties criticize the government for devoting too much attention to parliamentary elections and forgetting the more important issue of the economy...

[al-Sulh, interrupting] The Lebanese Government has devoted and is devoting more attention to the economic situation than to any other issue. The ministers met and have begun implementing measures to ease the economic crisis and improve living conditions for all Lebanese. We have begun adopting measures we hope will produce results and ease the economic crisis as soon as possible.

[Correspondent] Have you been informed of anything new regarding the two German hostages?

[al-Sulh] The Iranian ambassador [as heard] visited me this morning and informed me that Iran is trying to obtain the release of the two German hostages.

[Correspondent] When will the economic measures begin to produce results?

[al-Sulh] Next week, God willing.

Government 'Determined' To Hold Summer Elections

NC1306083792 *Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic*
0800 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid al-Sulh said the government is determined to hold parliamentary elections later this summer. He stated that the first task the government will undertake is to merge al-Nabatiyah and southern Lebanon into one governorate. He stated that the government will also make Beirut one electoral constituency.

Visitors cited al-Sulh as saying that special arrangements will be made regarding the situation in southern Lebanon, particularly the occupied border strip.

Franjiyah Resigns Over 'Current Circumstances'

NC1606135892 *(Clandestine) Voice of the South*
in Arabic to Lebanon 1330 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Housing and Cooperatives Minister Sulayman Tony Franjiyah said that he considers himself as resigning immediately from the government and that he is not waiting for any response to the resignation. He said that the president of the Republic—who does not dare to talk face to face—cannot be a ruler of a country under the current circumstances.

Franjiyah visited President al-Hirawi today.

Lebanon Experiencing Israeli 'Savagery, Cowardice'

NC1306064692 *Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed*
in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] 'Allamah Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah believes that we are experiencing the enemy's savagery and cowardice. He said those who exaggerate the enemy's power know that it is not diplomatic or political efforts which deter the enemy from devastating the land, because the enemy knows that it can achieve a certain victory despite grave losses. He remarked that the current situation is different from the situation before the Israeli invasion in 1982.

Fadlallah added: When Israel commits the most barbaric crimes against the Muslims in occupied Palestine, America works to avert a condemnation of Israeli practices, equating the killer with the victim. How can Washington demand that the resistance, which seeks freedom and the liberation, be disarmed while not lifting a finger on the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon.

Addressing the Arabs who are negotiating with Israel, Fadlallah said: Listen to the statements and slogans of the Israeli election campaign and you will see that the Israelis have no intention of giving the Arabs anything. All they are prepared to give the Palestinians is autonomous rule, which is not independence, he said. The Israelis insist on maintaining the settlements, Fadlallah said.

Fadlallah said that with power in their hands, the Israelis are not prepared to give away anything except what they call peace. They will relinquish nothing as long as America refuses to put pressure on them, he said.

His eminence said the Arabs are not satisfied with America's messages and empty talk about UN Security Council Resolution 242 and the land-for-peace formula. What is the American concept of withdrawal, he asked, adding: There is a debate on the interpretation of the English and French texts which deal with Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Minister al-Amin on 'Duplicitous' U.S. Policy

NC1406070292 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed
in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Minister al-Amin has said that the situation in the south is the result of a Zionist occupation that rejects any political settlement. He held the United States responsible for the Zionist aggression because of its duplicitous way of handling events, and asked those who urge that the resistance be ended to offer an alternative to military operations. He noted that the state's role in confronting the aggression depends on its capabilities.

Minister Muhammad Baydun noted that Israel needs no pretext to commit aggression against the south. He said that the responsibility lies with the international and Arab communities, which are supposed to deter these aggressions. He said that the situation in the south endangers the region, and that the United States must adopt political measures to help put an end to these aggressions.

Minister Nabih Birri, meanwhile, said that the Israeli escalation in the south is aimed at evicting the people and influencing the Israeli and Lebanese elections.

Israeli Shelling Reported; 15 Jailed at al-Khiyam

NC1606071892 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed
in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] The occupation troops continue their aggressions against the south. Ten Zionist shells fell on the village of

Haddathah, but did not cause any casualties. The repressive Zionist measures against the southerners continue at all levels. The occupation troops reportedly detained 15 youngsters from the districts of Bint Jubayl and Marj 'Uyun in the past two days. They took them to the militias' [South Lebanese Army] barracks in the village of Markaba, Marj 'Uyun, and then to al-Khiyam prison. Also detained was citizen Hassan Mahmud Hasan and his two sisters. He was forcibly drafted in the last recruitment campaign for refusing to join the training camp in al-Majidiyah.

The occupation troops, backed by the Lahd militia's security officers, continue to examine citizens' identity cards in several villages and detain people between 17 and 35 years old. The Zionist troops also detained some Lahd elements on charges of dealing with the resistance. According to information, they question most of the militiamen, particularly those recruited for this purpose [sentence as heard].

According to information, the occupation troops set up new positions in the southern regions, mostly in the Kafr Hammd triangle in the Western sector, in view of increasing resistance operations. The Zionists are laying ambushes at the Tayr Harfa-al-Jibbayn-Shihin triangle and as far as Wadi Hassan. They have also fortified their positions north of Mirwahin village in the Western sector and in Birkat Rishah, which is close to the borders. According to travelers from Bint Jubayl and Hasbayya, the occupation troops and the Lahd militiamen continue their aggressions against the inhabitants of the occupied villages.

According to sources inside the border zone, two Zionist occupation troops were wounded during the operation carried out by the national resistance against an enemy patrol along the Basil-al-Salhani in the Western sector close to the border with occupied Palestine. They were transferred by military helicopter to the occupied Palestinian territories. The occupation troops set up military positions at the scene of the incident near the Hammud triangle.

[In a shorter report, Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic at 0515 GMT on 16 Jun adds the following:

["About 10 shells fired from neighboring hills fell last night in Haddathah in the central sector, causing material damage. Shells also fell in Qinya area, setting fire to large areas of agricultural land.

["In al-Biq'a, an explosion occurred around midnight last night inside a center of the Revolutionary Committees [al-lijan al-thawriyah; not further identified] in al-Marj village. The explosion caused cracks in the building, which is owned by Ahmad 'Abd-al-Hadi al-Shammuri."]

'Awn, Others on Phalangist Reconciliation Appeal

NC1406105892 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0715 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Excerpt] Following Phalangist Party leader Minister George Sa'adah's appeal for Christian and nationalist reconciliation, the Voice of Lebanon asked several personalities for their views on the subject.

A Christian reconciliation delegation is expected to visit Paris next week to talk with former President Amin al-Jumayyil, Raymond Iddih [a Lebanese politician living in Paris], and General Michel 'Awn.

General 'Awn said he will welcome the delegation, adding, however, that he has no idea what proposals the delegation will bring with it. He noted that he will be positive with everyone and that the substance of the issue is what counts.

'Awn said that what is in question is Lebanon's survival and thus he rejects the idea of letting bygones be bygones or dealing with matters casually. He said that his stance on parliamentary elections is obvious.

Abbot Bulus Nu'man said that reaching an agreement on basic political goals would be good not only for Maronites and Christians but for all Lebanese.

He said he wants the state to remove the word "exile" from its vocabulary prior to the parliamentary elections, allow General 'Awn to return, and provide an air of freedom and reconciliation under which elections can be held.

The Maronite League chairman, lawyer Ernest Karam, said the purpose of Maronite reconciliation is to make leaders agree on Lebanese principles. [passage omitted]

Christian Delegation Leaves for Talks With 'Awn

NC1506164392 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1530 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] A Christian reconciliation delegation made up of former Deputy Shaykh Qabalan 'Isa al-Khuri, Maronite League head Lawyer Ernest Karam, Lawyer George Jabr, and Ni'matallah Abu-Nasr, left Beirut for Paris today. The delegation members will meet with former President Amin al-Jumayyil, Raymond Iddih [son of former Lebanese President Emile Iddih], and former Army Commander General Michel 'Awn.

Sa'adah on Party Policy, Elections, Syria

NC1306095192 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0915 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Phalangist Party leader Minister George Sa'adah has appealed to all nationalists, Christians, and Muslims to come together and cooperate, because no one can eliminate the other's role.

In an interview with the Voice of Lebanon's Saturday Salon program, Dr. Sa'adah said: We seek to become a nationalist party. He said that the framework of that process will be submitted for discussion during the next Phalangist conference. He emphasized that the situation and the slogans will be different in the future.

On the future of the party's relation with the Lebanese Forces, Sa'adah said: Only time and the party's political program can decide that.

Sa'adah called for developing a Christian and nationalist authority which includes everyone. Reconciliation with ourselves and with others is our motto today, he said.

Touching on the elections issue, Sa'adah called for governorate-based elections after a review of the demographic factors, recalling that al-Ta'if provides for this. We support the principle of elections, but differ on the timing, he said, adding: Unless the evacuees and immigrants return, normalcy cannot be restored.

Touching on Lebanese-Syrian relations, Dr. Sa'adah said they should not be circumstantial or based on certain personal interests. Answering a question, he said: We call for rescuing Syria from the Lebanese problem in order to preserve both countries' sovereignty and independence.

Cabinet Meets To Study Draft Election Law

NC1506113792 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic
1030 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] The Cabinet, contrary to expectations, has not decided on the amended election law. In an extraordinary one-hour session today, ministers studied the draft law. They will debate it further at another session tomorrow. The Cabinet approved a request by the information minister to rectify some affairs in the state-controlled Lebanese Television Company and to report back to the Cabinet within 45 days.

University Bombing Suspect's Trial Postponed

NC1506190392 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] The Standing Military Court headed by Brigadier General Emile Hubayqah postponed the trial of Jihad al-Khalil—who is charged with blowing up American University of Beirut's [AUB] College Hall—to 10 July at the request of the defendant's lawyer.

German Hostages 'Handed Over' to Schmidbauer

*JN1606103492 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic
Radio Network in Arabic 1015 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] The two German hostages, Thomas Kemptner and Heinrich Struebig, were handed over to Bernd Schmidbauer, state minister in the German Chancellor's office, in Beirut at 1215 [local] today. Schmidbauer had earlier left Damascus for Beirut. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Assistant Foreign Minister Yusuf Shakkur, senior Foreign Ministry officials, and the German charge d'affaires and embassy staff.

In a statement to SANA, Schmidbauer expressed his thanks to the Syrian Government for its hospitality and its assistance in releasing the hostages. He added: We have obtained great support from the Syrian Government concerning the release of these hostages. The Syrian Government's cooperation with us in this regard has been excellent, he added.

Al-Asad Receives Mubarak Telephone Call 11 Jun

*JN1306182592 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio
Network in Arabic 1815 GMT 13 Jun 92*

[Text] On the morning of the first day of the blessed 'Id al-Adha [11 June], President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The two presidents exchanged congratulations on the occasion of the blessed 'Id. They also discussed some issues of mutual concern.

Ukrainian Industry Minister Arrives on Visit 15 Jun

*JN1506193192 Damascus Syrian Arab Radio Network
in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Jun 92*

[Text] Ukrainian Minister of Industry (Grigoriy Nekytipenko) and his accompanying delegation arrived in Damascus at noon today on a friendly visit to Syria scheduled to last for a few days.

He was received at Damascus International Airport by Minister of Industry Antoine Jubran and a number of directors of industrial establishments. In a statement to a SANA correspondent, (Nekytipenko) said that during his visit he will have discussions on bilateral industrial exchanges.

Radio—Israel Poses Threat to Environment

*JN1306143792 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic
Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Jun 92*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Should the earth summit, convening in Brazil and attended by over 150 states, succeed in restoring the ecological balance to nature and human life, it will truly constitute the most significant world gathering in history.

No one is unaware of the fact that the catastrophes that have afflicted the earth and the disasters that threaten it are due to the aggressiveness and greed of certain regimes and governments, which try to impose their custodianship by force on many peoples in the world and plunder and exhaust their resources as fast as they can without taking any account of human and environmental factors.

The states that are classified as rich, industrialized nations owe their wealth and industrial prosperity to their military invasions and colonialist conquests. For years, these countries have exploited the wealth and riches of peoples and continents, without any supervision or questioning. When they had to withdraw from the colonized countries under pressure of national struggles, they imposed so-called market laws on these countries. These laws constitute flagrant theft. They buy the material at very cheap prices and then export manufactured materials at very high prices.

If we review the disasters that have befallen mankind, at the head of which are wars, we find these countries responsible for all these disasters. They launched colonialist wars, and colonialist rivalry was the reason behind the two world wars. These countries founded the alien Israeli entity in a region which has always enjoyed security, stability, and ecological balance. They founded this cancerous, aggressive entity to threaten the Arab nation and prevent unity among its children, and to employ it as a policeman and a faithful protector of Western interests, particularly oil interests.

Ever since the Zionists settled in Palestine, which they usurped by force, deception, and collusion, the Middle East has lost its security, stability, and balance. It has even seen disasters and calamities, as the vice president and head of the Syrian delegation to the Rio de Janeiro's earth summit said. The Zionist invaders have expelled more than half of the Palestinian people and practiced a series of savage aggressive policies, which aimed at driving the Arabs hungry and thirsty and depriving them of land and water resources. They sealed off water wells, confiscated land, and did not hesitate to poison life. They expanded their aggressive activity and usurped all the Palestinian territory in 1967, occupied the Syrian Golan Heights, and then southern Lebanon.

Their sins and crimes did not spare nature. They diverted water resources to their settlements and set the Arab forests and farms ablaze. Under the pretext of security, they uprooted hundreds of thousands of trees in the West Bank and southern Lebanon.

Here, we have to note a strange paradox. The Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro is preparing to save the Amazon forests from the claws of merchants and investors who sell the wood. But who is going to save the trees of south Lebanon and the West Bank from the brutality of the Zionists? Destruction in the latter case is aimed at starvation and depriving Arabs of their livelihood, as

well as the total destruction of the environment so as to make it arid and dry after it was green and alive.

The Zionists have not only destroyed ecological balance, but they have also forced the Middle East countries to devote their resources to defending themselves, instead of using these resources to achieve development, prosperity, and affluence.

If the funds devoted to defense were spent on development, the Middle East would have been an oasis of human and ecological security and stability. But nothing of this sort has been achieved. This is because the Israeli rulers are committing aggression and shelling villages, towns, and camps every day. They are pursuing Palestinians with bombs and rockets, even in their squalid tents, after having deprived them of their homeland.

The Israeli rulers, who have set up a huge arsenal of conventional, nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons, do not hesitate to threaten Arab states with using the most destructive and lethal weapons. Day after day and minute by minute they violate international law. So how can we maintain an important part of the planet Earth? And how can its ecological balance be safeguarded, while the Zionist danger threatens both man and plants?

Conclusive evidence has proven that industrialized Western nations are responsible for polluting the environment and creating the dangers that threaten the earth and its ozone layer. Conclusive evidence has also proven that industrialized Western nations are responsible for Israeli rebellion against international legitimacy and its resolutions, charters, and principles. They are therefore responsible for the consequences and woes of disasters that befall the Middle East. In the past, these nations supplied Israel with all the requirements of aggression and expansion, and their connivance today is preventing the implementation of international law in the Middle East.

Man and Earth will not know stability without real peace. Israel rejects peace and insists on aggression, expansion, and occupation. Will the Earth Summit champion international law and force the aggressors and those who encourage aggression to respect human life and the rights of nations to their homelands, territories, wealth, and the safety of their environment?

United 'Aggressive' Stand of Israeli Parties Cited

JN1406075992 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic
Radio Network in Arabic 0447 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Press review]

[Text] TISHRIN editorializes on the common aggressive program of the two rival parties in Israel. TISHRIN says: Observers have noted the meanings and dimensions of the aggressive ceremony in the Golan, jointly attended by Shamir and Rabin. News agencies cited the leaders of the two rival parties in the Zionist entity as underscoring

the annexation of the Golan and affirming that they will not withdraw from it and will cover it with settlements. This affirms that the Zionist parties adopt a single political program based on aggression, occupation, expansion, shedding Arab blood, seizing and usurping Arab rights, and imposing the Israeli will.

TISHRIN adds: All these headings of the electoral programs of both the Likud and Labor parties are not mere topics or proposals to gain votes or share power; rather, they are a sign of the post-election stage in Israel. These headings are the essence of the common position of the two rival parties as well as the basis of their aggressive and expansionist moves and trends, whether the Likud continues in power, the Labor assumes power, or whether they share power.

TISHRIN continues: The Israeli occupation of the Golan has united the Likud and Labor through open agreement between them and through Shamir and Rabin's assertions concerning the situation in and future of the occupied Syrian Arab Golan Heights. This represents a new challenge for and provocation of the will of the international community and resolutions of international legitimacy. When the Israelis throw down the gauntlet of aggression, expansion, and control over the occupied Arab territory, and when they search for formulas and plans to threaten regional security and obstruct the peace process, they are in fact exposing their stands and revealing their goals, rancor, and intentions which are hostile, in form and content, to the bases and components of genuine peace. They do not hesitate to escalate the situation in the region and to make provocative, racist, and aggressive statements—within the framework of their electoral campaigns—at the expense of peace, Arab rights, and justice.

TISHRIN says: The entire world has always affirmed that the Golan is Syrian Arab territory, that all measures taken by Israel to change the features of the Golan are null and void, that any talk about peace should be based on the return of the Golan to Syria and on Israel's complete withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory. Israel, however, continues its anti-peace stands, insists on holding on to the occupied territory, rejects the will of the international community, and disregards the resolutions of international legitimacy. It has become impossible to remain silent over Israel's practices, because Israel is exploiting world silence to continue its threats, blackmailing stands, and challenge of the bases and components of peace.

The newspaper says: No matter how far Israel continues with this aggressive behavior, the shining fact remains that there will be no peace while the occupation continues, and that Israel is responsible for all the consequences of not achieving peace and aggravating and escalating the situation. Israel is aware of what its attempts to undermine peace mean in terms of eventualities that would push the region to the edge of an abyss.

Concluding, TISHRIN affirms that Syria, which has responded to the peace prerequisites and paved the way for peace through acceptance of the U.S. initiative, will continue to be concerned about the peace process and components by not relinquishing, conceding, or bargaining over Arab lands and rights.

Press Criticizes Israeli Attacks, 'Fabrications'

JN1606075392 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic
Radio Network in Arabic 0450 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Will Israel Expand its Aggression Against Lebanon," AL-BATH says: It has become crystal clear that whenever elections in the Zionist entity draw near, the enemy escalates its attacks on Lebanon. These have recently taken many forms, such as random arrests, imposing siege on residents, intensifying patrols and military buildups, as well as savage raids on defenseless villages.

AL-BATH goes on to say: After Israel's failure to thwart peace efforts from within, it has resorted to striking at peace through exploding the military situation in southern Lebanon and launching a series of attacks, which observers expect to expand to a degree that could threaten the region's security. The reason for this is that international unanimity on the need to achieve peace and stability in this region on the basis of UN resolutions has not been to the liking of Israeli policies and Israel's clinging to occupation and settlement plans.

AL-BATH adds: The continued Zionist aggression against Lebanon to achieve several gains, which the enemy thinks would serve its interests, can only bring about a series of successive defeats for this arrogant enemy. This is because the efforts to achieve peace are continuing, just as the march of national accord in Lebanon is proceeding to achieve its objectives. What is

more important than this is that the south will be liberated from occupation, whether the enemy likes it or not.

Under the headline "The Israeli Arms Arsenal," TISHRIN says: The objectives and intentions that underlie Israel's constant attack on Syria are no longer a secret to anyone. Nor is it a secret why Israel fabricates incidents and excuses from time to time by leveling accusations against Syria because it is acquiring weapons, exaggerating this issue before world public opinion, and creating a crisis in the region because of Syria's possession of weapons or its search for advanced technological weapons.

TISHRIN goes on to say: Israel's objectives are clear and exposed. For, in addition to fabricating stories, Israel is trying to cook up a crisis or confrontation with Syria based on issues related to arms and armament to obtain results and reactions that undermine Syria's position and its concern for peace, and so that Israel might cast doubt on the political credibility to which Syria is committed and adopts as a strategic principle in its international relations and approaches. This principle is based on responding to efforts to achieve a just, comprehensive peace in the region and responding to the principles of international legitimacy, UN resolutions, and the U.S. initiative.

TISHRIN adds: Because Syria opened the door wide to the peace process, the Israeli grudge against it will escalate and get worse as the world discovers more clearly that Israel does not want peace.

The paper asks: Why does Israel create all this hullabaloo regarding Syria's weapons and why does it fabricate such stories about Syria's possession of arms?

When Israel declares that its military capabilities have become stronger and that it possesses factories that produce weapons of mass destruction, this is meant to threaten the Arabs with further occupation and expansion.

India

Procurement of Missile Parts From UK Denied

BK1506162592 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1530 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] India today categorically denied any clandestine procurement of key components for nuclear and missile programs from Britain. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry described the report in this regard appearing in a London newspaper as mischievous and politically motivated. Speaking to newsmen in New Delhi, he said some components required for short-range missiles were negotiated for purchase as far back as 1986 only with the prior permission of the British Government. He also said the wild allegations made against the Bhabha Atomic Research Center are clearly intended to malign India's nuclear program for peaceful purposes.

U.S. Bid To Link Aid to Nuclear Issue Rejected

BK1306162492 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1530 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] The U.S. congressional committee has rejected a move to link American aid to New Delhi with the issue of nuclear nonproliferation as in the case of Pakistan. The committee yesterday allowed Democratic congressman, Mr. Charles Wilson, to move an amendment to the Foreign Aid Appropriations Bill only after the provisions against India were made ineffective. The committee asked Mr. Wilson to modify the bill as it does not want to jeopardize the forthcoming Indo-U.S. talks on the issue due to begin on Thursday [18 June]. Besides, the Indian ambassador to the U.S., Mr. Abid Hussain, has written to the committee chairman, Mr. Obey, objecting to the move to equate India with Pakistan in the nuclear sphere.

Rao Talks With Pakistan's Sharif in Brazil Viewed

BK1506053092 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0245 GMT 15 Jun 92

[M.L. Kothru commentary]

[Text] Abundant caution. That is what the prime minister, Mr. P.V. Narasimha Rao, was exercising while summing up his one-hour meeting in Rio de Janeiro yesterday with his Pakistani counterpart, Mr. Nawaz Sharif. And given Mr. Nawaz Sharif's track record, it is better less than that way. The two prime ministers have already met four times. And on the face of it, their meetings have not brought the two countries any closer largely, I must say, because of bad faith on the part of Mr. Nawaz Sharif.

Take the meeting in Davos in Switzerland in February this year as an instance. There you had Mr. Nawaz Sharif's cooing sweet nothings. I say nothings because it took the Pakistan prime minister less than eight hours to go back on all he had said in Davos. To put it mildly, the Indian prime minister must have wondered where

exactly Mr. Sharif's heart lay when he said that he had a heart-to-heart exchange of views with Mr. Sharif [as heard] in Rio this time. Mr. Sharif used the same phrase to describe the outcome of his fourth meeting with Mr. Narasimha Rao. The fact is that Mr. Sharif's heart is not in the right place. If the Davos meeting in the event was a fiasco, what has followed since does not inspire confidence.

Mr. Sharif and his President Mr. Ishaq Khan have since repeated times out of number that for Pakistan, it is Kashmir or nothing. In other words give us Kashmir and we will be friends. A preposterous suggestion, as if Kashmir were a bit of cake to be passed around. Forget Kashmir for a while. Pakistan has done everything else since Davos to bring things to a flash point. Take the brutal assault on the senior Indian diplomat Rajesh Mittal in Islamabad followed not many days later by a similar act this time aimed at another senior Indian diplomat based in Karachi. The harsh truth is that Mr. Sharif must keep the Indian bogey alive if only for his own political survival. So, even if you were to forget Kashmir for a while, he must see the Indian hand behind the nationalistic ethnic upheaval in the Sindh Province. In the circumstances, it is not surprising that the fourth round in Rio ended in the usual mouthing of platitudes. Mr. Narasimha Rao was probably being courteous when he said that the dialogue at the top would be resumed. To what end he did not specify even though he did refer to the recent setbacks to bilateral relations. Or maybe Mr. Rao takes the philosophical view that it is better to talk rather than not talk at all.

Rao, China's Li Peng Discuss Bilateral Ties at Rio

BK1306155892 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 1530 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] India and China have expressed satisfaction at the progress in their bilateral relations. At their meeting in Rio de Janeiro, the prime ministers of the two countries also expressed happiness at the confidence-building measures on the border. Both Mr. Narasimha Rao and Mr. Li Peng are attending the Rio Earth Summit. At their half-hour meeting today, Mr. Narasimha Rao said there has been progress in Sino-Indian links with the Indian president's visit to China, the meeting of the joint working group on the border question and the smooth implementation of the confidence measures. He said the relations are expected to improve further with the defense minister's coming visit to China.

Mr. Li Peng, in his remarks, expressed happiness that peaceful conditions are being maintained on the border. He said the visit of the Indian president to China has also helped a great deal in improving relations between the two countries. AIR special correspondent Bhupal Inder Seni reports from Rio de Janeiro that the two countries have been cooperating at the Earth Summit in protecting the interests of the developing countries as both belong to that category.

Kashmir Border Troops in Shootout With Pakistanis

BK1506010092 Hong Kong AFP in English 1429 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] JAMMU, India, June 14 (AFP)—Six Indian Border Security Forces (BSF) were wounded after an alleged attack by Pakistani troops in disputed Kashmir as separatist-linked violence rocked the northern state, reports said Sunday.

Paramilitary BSF troops with Indian army regulars exchanged sporadic gunfire with Pakistani troops on the Kashmir border at Bhimber Gali, Bagial Dara, Sekar and Medhar at the weekend, Indian defense officials said.

The officials claimed the shooting was started by the Pakistanis, who managed to seriously wound a BSF major, two captains, a soldier and an assistant commandant and his bodyguard.

Across the border, the Pakistani troops were observed by the Indian forces removing five men with injuries, the officials said here.

Elsewhere in Kashmir, factional fights between activists from the Hizbul mujahedeen and Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, two hardcore Moslem militant groups, killed eight people and injured 14 during weekend violence, a government spokesman said.

Sources from the two groups confirmed the fights and casualties and added that the incidents took place in Jammu's Awantipara area and Kashmir's Pulawama district.

Four civilians also died in separatist-linked violence across Kashmir late Saturday, the government spokesman added.

Three of the civilians were caught in a crossfire during a fight that erupted between Moslem militants and security forces after a landmine planted by the militants burst outside Hamare village near Srinagar.

An army vehicle was damaged in the blast but the spokesman did not say if it had killed or injured anyone.

A seven-year-old boy died after being hit by a stray bullet during fighting between militants and security forces outside Srinagar late Saturday.

14 Soldiers Killed in Ambush by Naga Insurgents

BK1306050692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] In Nagaland, 14 Army personnel were killed and 10 injured when militants belonging to the National Socialist Council of Nagaland—NSCN—ambushed their vehicle in Chajima area. A massive search operation has been launched to apprehend the culprits. Senior Army personnel have rushed to the spot.

Labor Unions Call Protest Strike 16 Jun

8,000 in 'Preventive Custody'

BK1406163592 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The government today announced that priority will be given in the revival package to sick [loss-ridden] public sector units, ignoring the strike call on Tuesday [16 June]. Describing the call as unjustified and politically-motivated, the labor minister, P.A. Sangma, appealed to workers to reject the call and said the law will take its own course against the violators.

Addressing a press conference after a high-level review of the scenario, Mr. Sangma said the impact of the call is expected to be much less this time than last year's industrial strike. He said major port workers unions, Hind Mazdoor Sabha, and unions of railway, telecommunication, power, and cement sectors are not participating. The call is not supported by the SBI [State Bank of India] and Reserve Bank officers unions. Indian Airlines flights are expected to be normal. Mr. Sangma pointed out that only 145 notices have been received from the central sector unions against 225 last year.

Mr. Sangma allayed the apprehensions of the trade unions that there will be closure of chronically sick public sector units. He pointed out that the prime minister himself had stated at the National Development Council meeting that there would be no such action. He said there had never been so much interaction with the trade unions on the economic issues. He said a 700 crore-rupee revival package has already been approved by the Finance Ministry for the textile workers.

Meanwhile, about 8,000 persons are reported to have been taken into preventive custody in Tamil Nadu in view of the strike call. The INTUC [Indian National Trade Union Congress] and AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam] labor wing in the state are not participating in the strike. Several bank workers organizations have also announced in a joint statement that they will not join in the strike.

Minister Appeals To Unions

BK1506140192 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] The minister of state for finance, Mr. Dalbir Singh, and the minister of state for industries, professor P.J. Kurien, have appealed to labor unions not to go on strike tomorrow in public interest. In separate press releases issued in New Delhi today, they said that the strike cannot resolve any issue and called them for negotiations to find an amicable solution to their problems.

The Congress-I has also appealed to the employees not to participate in the strike. The party spokesman, Mr. V.N. Gadgil, described the call as politically motivated and said it will harm both the economy and the interest of the

workers. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi today, he said the employees should not be misled by what he called false propaganda about the new economic policy.

Southern Railways says it will maintain normal train services tomorrow despite the all India industrial strike. According to an official press release issued in New Delhi, the Indian Airlines will maintain restricted schedule of operations. It will maintain direct air services linking Bombay, Delhi, Madras, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Leh. The flights to other destinations from the airline's network have been cancelled. The National Federation of Andhra Pradesh Government employees have decided not to join the bundh [strike].

The CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxists] has condemned the arrest of over 10,000 activists in Tamil Nadu in connection the strike call. In a statement issued in New Delhi today, the party politburo criticized the government's economic policy.

Strike Affects Some Services

*BK1606075292 Delhi All India Radio Network
in English 0730 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] Life in many parts of the country is affected by the call for a one-day strike by central trade unions except INTUC [Indian National Trade Union Congress] and BMS [Bharat Mazdoor Sangh—Indian Employees Union]. Work in banks and some public sector industrial units has also been affected. The central trade unions gave the call for the strike to protest against the government's economic and industrial policies. A spokesman of the northern railway said the train services in the region are, by and large, normal. However, there are reports of disruption in eastern and southeastern railways. The Indian airlines has curtailed its operations and many flights have been canceled. In the capital, Delhi Transport Corporation and private buses are plying normally. Essential services like water supply, hospital services, and milk supply have been exempted from the purview of the strike. Some preventive arrests have been made in various parts of the country.

Iran

German Hostages Struebig, Kemptner Reportedly Free

*LD1606091592 Tehran IRNA in English 0744 GMT
16 Jun 92*

[Text] Damascus, June 16, IRNA—Personal envoy of the German chancellor to Beirut for release of the last two Western hostages Bernd Schmidbauer met with Iran's Ambassador to Damascus Hojjat-ol-Eslam Mohammad Hasan Akhtari-Foruqi here Monday night and thanked Iran for her efforts to secure the release of the hostages.

The Iranian diplomat briefed Schmidbauer on the Islamic Republic's efforts to free the two German hostages and expressed hope that they would reunite with their families within 24 hours.

Heinrich Struebig, 51, and Thomas Kemptner, 31, held captive since May 1989, were reportedly released by their captors last night and handed over to the relevant officials.

However, a statement issued by the captors last night said that the hostages will be released within 48 hours.

In a related development, Iranian Diplomat Huseyn Toukhteh met here with Lebanese State Minister and leader of the Amal Movement of Lebanon Nabih Birri yesterday.

The two sides discussed the latest developments in Lebanon and Zionist atrocities against the Lebanese people in southern Lebanon. They also discussed the forthcoming parliamentary elections in Lebanon.

Georgian Delegation Continues Visit 15 Jun

Prime Minister Meets Hashemi-Rafsanjani

*LD1506221992 Tehran IRNA in English 1708 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA—Georgian Premier Tengiz Sigua in a meeting with President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here today welcomed expansion of mutual relations. Rafsanjani said potential possibilities and historical backgrounds of the two countries as well as new regional conditions paved the way for broadening Tehran-Tbilisi relations. He agreed to Iran's natural gas supply to Georgia.

Sigua hand delivered a message from Georgia's Chairman of the State Council Eduard Shevardnadze to Rafsanjani, which invited him to visit Georgia. He called the talks with the Iranian officials as "fruitful". Sigua suggested boosting relations on such areas as politics, economy, trade, transportation, sports as well as cultural issues. Sigua arrived here yesterday heading a high ranking delegation.

Tehran, Tbilisi Embassies To Open

*LD1506214592 Tehran IRNA in English 1738 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA—Foreign Ministers of Iran and Georgia here today agreed to open the embassies of the two countries in Tehran and Tbilisi.

Georgian Foreign Minister Aleksandr Chikvaideze in his meeting with 'Ali Akbar Velayati stressed the need for further contacts between the two countries and said Georgia is keen to purchase natural gas from Iran.

Velayati in reply called for further exchanges of views by the two countries over the regional issues.

Chikvaide, accompanying Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua, arrived here Sunday.

Meanwhile, expansion of technical, industrial and educational cooperation between Iran and Georgia was reviewed in a meeting between Industry Minister Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh and his Georgian counterpart, Bessik P. Djugeli here today.

The two sides expressed their keenness for industrial and economic data exchange, and promotion of mutual cooperation in engineering, designing, housing and joint production of commodities.

Joint investment on technical and industrial projects and exchange of expert delegations was among other topics of the talks at which the Iranian side said an expert team would be sent to Georgia soon to investigate the technical and industrial potentials of that republic.

Djugeli is part of the delegation headed by Premier Sigua.

Officials Sign Accords

LD1606110992 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] At the end of the three-day visit to our country by a high-ranking Georgia delegation, led by the Georgian prime minister, both countries' high-ranking officials signed five agreements and memorandum of understandings at midday today. The accords are in the fields of communications and transportation; trade cooperation; political consultations; canceling visas for diplomatic passport holders; and exporting gas.

According to the agreement about commercial cooperation—signed by Foreign Minister Velayati and Georgian Prime Minister Sigua—both sides stressed expanding economic and trade relations; exchanging trade representatives; staging industrial and trade fairs; exchanging experiences and information; and cooperation in banking.

In the joint statement signed by the foreign ministers of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Georgian Republic, both sides reached agreement on expanding bilateral relations; establishing political missions in each others' countries; exchanging delegations and consultation; exchanging opinion about regional and international political issues; cooperation in international organizations and forums; training diplomatic staff of Georgia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Iranian colleges and institutions; and setting up a joint economic commission.

The Georgian prime minister and accompanying delegation left Tehran this afternoon. They were seen off by Foreign Minister Velayati.

Kuwaiti Communications Minister, Gharazi Meet

LD1506211692 Tehran IRNA in English 1626 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA—Kuwaiti Minister of Communications Habib Jawhar Hayat and the Iranian Minister of Post, Telegraph and Telephone, Mohammad Gharazi as well as experts from Iran and Kuwait in their talks today underlined the need for expanding Tehran-Kuwait postal and telecommunication relations.

Gharazi elaborated on Iran's telecommunication and postal facilities and enumerated the fields on which Iran could offer services to Kuwait and its Muslim citizens.

Hayat expressed pleasure with the interest of the people and government of Iran in Kuwait and welcomed the facilities provided by Iran for strengthening the telecommunication services and for helping Kuwait benefit from Iran's postal experience.

"Iranian and Kuwaiti experts reached some agreements on their cooperation, prior to our confirmation," Hayat notified.

Hayat expressed hope that at the completion of the agreements the two countries would soon sign a cooperation protocol on bilateral postal and telecommunication cooperation.

"We attach special importance to having relations with the newly independent former Soviet Muslim republics, that will be materialized through Iran after signing Irano-Kuwait cooperation agreement," the Kuwaiti official noted.

Also managing director of Islamic Republic's post organization, Majid Maleki at the meeting voiced Iran's readiness to help Kuwait in highly advanced postal codification system and in the setting up of financial post and facsimile systems.

Gharazi told reporters that Kuwait enjoyed a good potential for developing telecommunication services as well as internal and external telephone links, but that it needed Iran's cooperation for access to global telecommunications.

"We are to increase our microwave telecommunication lines with Kuwait to about 400-500 lines which would have direct impact on the trade and economic relations of our country," concluded Gharazi.

[Tehran IRNA in English at 1740 GMT on 15 June carries the following report: "Meanwhile, Kuwaiti Communication Minister Habib Jawhar Hayat met with Velayati here on the same day, where he said Iran's principled stances towards the occupation of Kuwait is the major element for the expansion of mutual ties.

Velayati also expressed Iran's readiness for the establishment of the grounds for cooperation between regional Arab countries and newly-independent republics of Central Asia."]

Hayat, Hashemi-Rafsanjani Meet

LD1606095592 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] President Hashemi-Rafsanjani today met with Kuwaiti Communications Minister Habib Hasan Jawhar Hayat. During this meeting, referring to Iran's foreign policy of expanding cooperation with the Muslim countries and particularly countries of the Persian Gulf region, the president welcomed strengthening and expanding ties between Iran and Kuwait.

Also during this meeting, attended by Post, Telephone, and Telegraph Minister Mohammad Gharazi, Hayat presented a report about his country's developments. Referring to our country's principled position during the Persian Gulf war, he said: We shall never forget the righteous positions of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the hospitality offered to the Kuwaiti citizens during this war, which demonstrates the rule of genuine Islam in Iran. In conclusion of his remarks, Hayat asked for expanding both countries' relations in every field, particularly in communications and transportation.

Yugoslavia Ouster From Nonaligned Movement Urged

NC1506094592 Paris AFP in English 0850 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 15 (AFP)—Iran should press for the expulsion of Yugoslavia from the Nonaligned Movement [NAM] for its "large-scale slaughter" of Muslims in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the TEHRAN TIMES argued Monday.

"The rulers in Belgrade have sunk to such a low moral status and have committed such atrocious crimes (that) it will take decades to wipe their horrible image from world public opinion," said the English-language paper, which generally reflects government thinking here.

It accused Serbia, which along with Montenegro is all that remains of the former Yugoslav federation, of carrying out "large-scale slaughter in the heart of Europe."

The paper noted that Yugoslavia, as a founding member of the Nonaligned Movement, had once enjoyed considerable international stature.

But Yugoslavia is now isolated diplomatically and under United Nations embargo for its attempts to retain territory in Bosnia-Herzegovina, also formerly part of Yugoslavia.

"Apart from whatever measures are being taken by the international organizations, the Muslim countries have a double duty in the face of the crimes being committed by the Serbs against the Muslim population of Bosnia-Herzegovina," it said.

Armenia-Azerbaijan Mediation 'Conditions' Cited

LD1606101692 Tehran IRNA in English 0926 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 16, IRNA—Iran's Ambassador to the Republic of Azerbaijan 'Ali Akbar Nehavandian underlined Iran's readiness "to restart mediation between Armenia and Azerbaijan on certain conditions."

In an interview with the TEHRAN TIMES published Tuesday, the ambassador said: "Iran's terms for the mediation are that forces of the two sides should withdraw on the point where they were stationed at the time of the Tehran declaration and also both parties should accept Iranian mediation."

He was referring to the tripartite talks held here attended by President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, Azerbaijan Acting President Yaqub Mamedov and Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan.

The talks were held in early May and the warring parties, Azerbaijan and Armenia, accepted Iran's mediation and also agreed to observe a cease-fire soon.

Unfortunately political developments took place in Azerbaijan and the war continued resulting in the fall of the two Azeri towns of Sushan and Lachin in the hands of Armenians, Nehavandian said.

"This is our sincere effort to see that peace should reign in our neighbouring countries as soon as possible," he noted, scoffing at rumours that Iran supplied weapons to Armenia and underscored the fact that Iran in no way considered war an answer to the problems faced by the two countries.

"How is it possible that while Iran wants peace it should supply weapons to a warring country which will mean sprinkling petrol instead of water to extinguish a fire?."

He underlined Iran's policy of having closer relations with all its neighbours and face-to-face meetings between top officials to explore fresh avenues for reciprocal cooperation.

As for relief aid to Azeri people, Nehavandian said, "there is no limit as far as Iran is concerned. We have already supplied gas worth 60 million U.S. dollars to Azerbaijan."

Also, a credit of 50 million dollars has been offered to Azeris so that they would come out of the present economic problems. Meanwhile, preparations have been made to open a branch of Bank Melli (National Bank) in Baku.

Iran has already started a 10 million dollars plan for the telephone network in the republic, the ambassador concluded.

Va'ez, Habibi Participate in Rio Earth Summit

Va'ez Meets Brazil's Lafer

*LD1406103492 Tehran IRNA in English 1700 GMT
13 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA—Brazilian Foreign Minister Celso Lafer in a meeting with Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmud Va'ez in Rio de Janeiro Saturday expressed satisfaction with the growing relations between the two countries.

Lafer also expressed hope that political contacts and consultations between Iran and Brazil would increase in the future.

The meeting took place on the sideline of the summit meet of the UN conference on environment and development.

Va'ez termed the 3rd session of the two countries' joint economic commission due to be held in Brazil by the end of the year as a "positive step towards expanding mutual relations."

The two also underlined the need for the Third World countries to make utmost use of the current Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro.

Habibi on Developed Countries, Pollution

*NC1506084492 Tehran Voice of the Islamic
Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian
0230 GMT 15 Jun 92*

[Text] First Vice President Habibi last night, according to Tehran time, addressed correspondents at the Rio-92 conference venue and described the conference as generally positive.

Habibi stated that propounding the environmental issue with development is very significant. He said the industrial countries are in the forefront concerning responsibility for polluting the environment.

According to our correspondent dispatched to Rio de Janeiro, the first vice president said industrial countries should pay for eliminating the pollution they cause. We continue this report with a recording by our correspondent received half an hour ago:

[Begin correspondent recording] Habibi added: In our view, a special body should be assigned to monitor environmental issues. Developed countries should accept its funding. He stressed that technology to be known as ("direct") technology should be placed in developing countries' hands.

Answering a question, our Vice President Habibi elaborated about the Iranian Government's position concerning Charter Number 21, saying: We accepted it in full. [end recording]

Habibi, Butrus-Ghali Meet

*NC1506073492 Tehran Voice of the Islamic
Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian
0330 GMT 15 Jun 92*

[Text] First Vice President Habibi met the UN secretary general on the sidelines of the UNCED [UN Conference on the Environment and Development] meeting in Rio de Janeiro to explain Iranian foreign policy. Stating that Persian Gulf stability contributes to world peace, he said: We were victims of war, but we want to be messengers of peace.

According to IRNA, the first vice president emphasized the Iranian Government's policy of not interfering in the internal affairs of the newly liberated former Soviet republics, saying: Iran does not intend to compete with anyone concerning these republics.

About developments in Afghanistan, Habibi said: Iran has tried to have the transfer of power effected in the country, taking into account the UN viewpoint.

He explained the Islamic Republic of Iran's efforts to resolve the dispute between Azerbaijan and Armenia over Nagorno-Karabakh.

During the meeting, the UN secretary general referred to President Hashemi-Rafsanjani's remarks during his visit to Tehran, saying: We strove to solve the Bosnia-Herzegovina problem, and we even scheduled our assistance to Sarajevo.

The UN secretary general added: The Islamic Republic of Iran's president asked us to investigate the plight of 3,000 Myanmar [Burmese] refugees and, following the UN emissary's discussions with Myanmar officials, it was agreed the refugees should return home.

Butrus-Ghali said he supported Iran's mediation in the Azerbaijan-Armenia conflict and said: Based on the UN charter, our objective is to resolve regional issues by utilizing the region's potential resources.

Tehran-Ankara Train Attack Draws Reaction

Daily Urges Action Against Ankara

*LD1406134792 Tehran IRNA in English 0800 GMT
14 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA—A morning daily Sunday regretted that so far Iranian officials have not reacted to the recent misconduct by Ankara, especially with regard to the Thursday attack of an armed group on a passenger train.

Tehran-Ankara train carrying 300 passengers including 170 Iranians, was attacked by armed men in southeast Turkey. The Turkish Government has attributed the attack to the Turkish Labour Party of Kurdistan.

A six-year old Iranian boy Amir Iravani was killed and eight other Iranians were injured in the incident while six wagons derailed and sustained heavy damage.

In a commentary ABRAR wrote that there are evidences that Ankara uses passenger trains for transportation of its military forces to suppress the opposition Kurds in that country.

"In the recent years, the Turkish Government in confronting the dissident Kurds, has repeatedly infringed international regulations and violated territories of the neighboring countries including Iraq in order to station its forces on border areas."

The Turkish administration, backed by the West, has been developing a feeling of egotism and is under the impression that it can engage in a power showdown and trample upon the internationally recognized principles.

Confiscation of the Iran-bound ship 'Cape Malias' and its cargo, providing freedom of action for the terrorist Mojahedin Khalq Organization (MKO), launching aggressions against Iraq, and threatening Syria with the blockade of the Euphrates, all speak of Ankara's obstinacy towards its neighbors.

"However, families of the victims of the incident expect those in charge of foreign policy not to surrender to Ankara's obstinacy or to political considerations," the article concluded.

Safety Guarantees Called For

*LD1406193192 Tehran IRNA in English 1656 GMT
14 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA—Following the Thursday attack of an armed group on a Tehran-Ankara train, managing director of the Iranian State Railways Sadiq Afshar here today in a cable to his Turkish counterpart called for guarantees to secure the safety of passenger trains crossing Turkey.

He said the incident will cause the people not to trust the Tehran-Ankara train any more.

A six-year old Iranian boy was killed and nine other Iranians were injured in the incident inside the Turkish territory. The Turkish Government has attributed the attack to the Kurdish Labour Party and Iran has objected to Turkey for its negligence on the matter.

'Gross' Turkish 'Negligence' Cited

*LD1506172992 Tehran IRNA in English 1631 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA—Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia and the Pacific 'Ala'eddin Borujerdi today said Turkey was responsible to guarantee the security of Iranian passengers to Turkey on board Tehran-Ankara trains.

Speaking to IRNA here Borujerdi said the Turkish Government was responsible for the lives of Iranian citizens living in Turkey and notified the Islamic republic's objection to the armed assault made on passenger trains in the Turkish territory.

He said the negligence of the Turkish officials to inform the Iranian embassy on last Thursday's incident had been gross, and added that Iranian ambassador to Ankara was informed by one of the Iranian passengers on the incident about seven hours after the event. The Turkish ambassador, he added, had been summoned to Iranian Foreign Ministry and given Iran's protest to the incident.

Asked whether the Turkish Government would be legally responsible for some sort of compensation to the victims of the attack he replied "we have taken a preliminary legal action through our embassy in Ankara and have filed for damages to be paid by the Turkish Government and we will follow up our action." He said the Turkish Government was responsible for the lives of Iranian citizens in Turkey.

The Iranian official rejected the Turkish embassy's explanation on the matter and called it "insufficient". Borujerdi stressed that the Turkish Government should guarantee the security of Tehran-Ankara passenger trains which passes the same route weekly.

A Tehran-Ankara passenger train was assaulted by gunmen in 'Mus' of Turkey Thursday at which a child was killed and another nine people were injured. There were 170 Iranians among the passengers of the train.

Iranian officials and newspapers subsequently protested the negligence of the Turkish Government and its police in the incident.

Daily on Turkish Responsibility

*LD1506203792 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA—Negligence of the Turkish Government to ensure the security of the passengers of the Tehran-Ankara train that was attacked last Thursday is not something that can be ignored.

Meanwhile, attribution of the armed attack against the train to the Kurdish Labour Party would not lessen Ankara's responsibility in this connection.

In an armed attack against the train carrying 300 passengers, including 170 Iranians, in the southern town of Mus, a six-year old Iranian boy was killed and nine others injured.

The hostile stand Turkey has adopted against Iran is gradually omitting that country from the list of the Islamic Republic's reliable and trustworthy friends.

Also, Turkey's repeated aggressions against Iraqi territory, occasional threats against Syria for blocking the Euphrates, its sequestering of the Iran-bound ship "Cape

Maleas", and its blatant attempt to impose its expansionist policies over the Republic of Azerbaijan, have all turned Turkey into a factor to disturb security and stability in the region.

Ankara's baseless fabrications on the alleged support of Iran for the armed guerrillas of the Kurdish Labour Party should be assessed within the framework of Turkey's open support for the terrorist Mojaheden-e Khalq Organization (MKO).

The fact that Turkish armed forces were hiding inside a tunnel when the train was attacked by the assailants and that they avoided to give their arms to Iranians to confront the attackers further strengthens the possibility that the MKO, being backed by the Ankara Government, was involved in the incident.

The Islamic Republic of Iran, in response to repeated claims of the Turkish Government alleging that Iran was supporting the Kurdish Labour Party, has asked for the dispatch of Turkish officials and journalists to border areas to investigate the authenticity of Ankara's allegations.

However, after the lapse of a year, not only the Turkish Government has not dispatched any delegation to those areas, but it has constantly repeated its claim and has resorted to it as a pretext for its open support for the terrorist MKO.

The Turkish Government is expected not to make a mistake in assessing Iran's noble stand towards Ankara's hostile attitude and give priority to its friendly ties with regional and neighbouring countries over promises from the West.

Commenting on the same subject the morning daily "JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI" said today that no doubt the Turkish Government is directly responsible for safeguarding the security of the Iranian passengers in such incidents.

The irresponsible attitude of the Ankara Government and negligence in helping the victims of the incident adds up to the heavy responsibility of the Turkish officials in this connection, it said.

Therefore, said the daily, Iran's Foreign Ministry should follow up the case to find out the cause of the incident, reasons for the negligence of Turkish officials in safeguarding security of the passengers of the train, and for Turkey's commitment to compensate for the losses.

"This is a grave and unforgettable event which naturally underlines Ankara's direct responsibility. This is an incident which would have left the least casualty if the assailants had been confronted in a prompt and effective manner by the Turkish officials."

Amir Iravani, the six-year old boy who was killed in the incident, is an innocent victim whose death tolls the alarm bells, said the daily, adding "Turkish officials should in practice prove that they are seriously regretful

of the incident and that they will exert utmost efforts to prevent repetition of such events in the future."

Afghan Affairs Envoy Meets With Mojaddedi

LD1606103492 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jun 92

[Text] Mr. Mir Mahmud Musavi, the Islamic Republic of Iran's [IRI] special envoy on Afghan affairs, arrived in Kabul yesterday and was welcomed at the city's airport by Afghan Foreign Ministry officials.

Musavi today met Mr. Sebghatollah Mojaddedi, the president of the interim government in Afghanistan. While conveying warm greetings from President Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Mr. Velayati, Mr. Musavi discussed current Afghan issues with Mr. Mojaddedi. During the meeting, referring to the importance of the IRI's ties with Afghanistan, Mr. Mojaddedi said: During the 14 years of the holy jihad the Afghan Mojahedin always enjoyed the support of their Muslim Iranian brothers. Mr. Mojaddedi added: At the present juncture, the situation in Afghanistan is very sensitive, and we hope to come through this destiny-making phase peacefully, thanks to cooperation among all the jihad factions.

Mr. Musavi, while reiterating the importance of both neighboring countries' ties, said: We have always stood beside our Muslim Afghan brothers, and we hope that by removing the existing difficulties an era of reconstruction will begin in Afghanistan as soon as possible. The IRI will also take steps to assist its Muslim brothers in Afghanistan.

Nonaligned News Agencies Pool Holds Conference

Khatami, Nasir Comment

LD1406154892 Tehran IRNA in English 1149 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA—Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Dr. Mohammad Khatami today accused the oppressive powers of attempting to bring all world affairs under their own control "by way of deception and ballyhoo." He said they intend to employ man's natural need for a new order of life "for the cause of their illegitimate interests."

"Right under conditions that the innocent man demands a new world order to get rid of the destructive domination of the colonialists, the arrogant powers, particularly the U.S. are attempting, in continuation of their previous crimes, to once again serve their illegitimate interests and dictate their usurping domination in the form of a new world order," he noted.

The minister made the remarks in the opening session of the 16th Coordinating Committee of the News Agencies of Nonaligned Pool [NANAP] here this morning. The one-day coordinating committee is to formulate the agenda of the 6th General Conference to start tomorrow.

Several hundred delegates from 60 nonaligned countries as well as representatives of international organizations and news media are attending the Tehran meeting.

"Today, while capitalist systems are faced with serious ideological, moral, political and even economic crises, we are witnessing the collapse of the eastern camp in the world, but the desire for freedom and justice which is rooted in man's nature is still standing," minister Khatami said, urging tyrannized and held-backward nations to learn a proper lesson from these experiences and take steps towards the establishment of a new system which provide justice and freedom and lay the foundation for an ideal system to meet the basic moral and material needs of all human beings.

Hojjat-ol-Eslam Khatami reminded that the Western world today, by utilizing all news and propaganda facilities, was trying to eliminate the religious, cultural and national identities of the developing countries. Therefore, he said, a more serious cooperation between the NAM news agencies could prepare the ground for countering this policy. "Through increasing professional capabilities and establishing orderly links, they can also supply other nations and world people with their needed news and information independent of the West's news broadcasting companies," he said.

Khatami said despite the futile hue and cry by the hegemonist powers, the main heroes in the creation of the new world order were the deprived nations which true that they had received many blows from the Western capitalist systems and the now collapsed eastern dictators, "yet their growing awareness and vigilance is a precious capital which can change the future direction of the human history to the benefit of the entire humanity."

Minister Khatami expressed hope that the Tehran conference will succeed in taking long strides towards attainment of an ideal communication and news order, particularly in the countries which are determined to achieve independence and progress.

Also addressing the conference was managing director of the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), Hoseyn Nasiri who pointing to the recent world developments, said a new page has been opened in human history which ushers a new era for active participation of all the world people in deciding the future current of events.

He voiced concern that if the existing opportunities and possibilities are not well identified and exploited the former oppressive system would be imposed on the majority of the world peoples in a new form under the title of the 'New World Order'.

"We believe that the constant and widespread cultural onslaught of the oppressive powers of the world against the beliefs, values and deep-rooted cultural standards of the developing nations, and the unjust and tyrannical conditions imposed by the mass media, dependent on and aligned with these powers, on the news and information flow on international level, are all done with the

aim of preparing the ground for the materialization of such a dreadful atmosphere throughout the world."

He said the satanic arrangements and policies of the trans-national media in reflecting distorted and biased version of current world events, their constant efforts to underestimate the achievements of the non-aligned and developing countries, exaggerating of the shortcomings and deficiencies in these countries, trumpeting the apparent insignificance of minor events in their own countries, and the conspiracy of silence regarding the resistance and deterrent measures of freedom-seeking nations to safeguard their independence and national freedoms are examples which in the opinion of committed journalists have resulted in the infiltration of imperialist policies in the field of news and information.

Nasiri, who assumes the chairmanship of the 6th General Conference of NANAP for three years in the opening session of the conference tomorrow, also said that the realisation of the deep influence and determining role of news and information in all phases of social and international life in the present time, and also of the unjust conditions imposed by the dominant world information order have been main causes in the formation and continuation of the life of the NANAP.

"We members of the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool, must therefore further cement our professional and technical communication on bilateral and multi-lateral levels and expand pool's geographical domain, through recruiting new members and promoting cooperation with UNESCO and other international specialized organizations, in order to boost NANAP's professional efficiency."

He said the lack of centralisation of information has so far prevented sufficient exploitation of the actual and potential capabilities of the news agencies participating in NANAP.

"Due to the common stances and joint interests of the pool news agencies and the feeling of confidence and understanding which has been a major factor for its continued existence of over 17 years, identification and appropriate exploitation of the fields of cooperation will not only strengthen each of our news agencies, but will also provide the needed professional and technical strength to assume desired responsibilities by the entire body of NANAP.

"In addition to providing basic conditions for further use of pool's news reports by the press and other media (inside and outside the movement), attention to general issues of the world today, such as the rights of children and women, environment protection, materialisation of lasting development, cultural onslaught against the national identity of independent countries and nations, etc. will turn pool into a rich and reliable news source."

Nasiri concluded by saying that identification of the weak and strong points, the basic needs and shortcomings, as well as the existing and potential possibilities and

opportunities to improve the professional talents and technical capacity of pool are top goals behind convening NANAP gatherings.

President, Velayati Remark

*LD1506172792 Tehran IRNA in English 0920 GMT
15 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA—President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani today said that in the development of current world events, access to information is considered one of the prime necessities of all human communities and an indispensable requirement of present-day man "since he cannot isolate himself from the information and events surrounding him."

In a message to the Sixth General Conference of the Nonaligned News Agencies Pool which opened at Esteghlal Hotel here today, the president further urged pool to play a decisive role in the current situation "taking into account the inappropriate process that prevails in the dissemination of news and exchange of information in the world order."

The Pool, said the message read by vice-president for legal and parliamentary affairs 'Ata 'Ollah Mohajerani, should also strive to protect and safeguard the cultural entities of the third world societies.

Delegates from some 60 member states of the nonaligned countries as well as international organizations are attending the week-long conference, held in Tehran for the first time.

Also addressing the conference was Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

"The Pool can play an important role in confronting the hegemonistic powers and in supporting the peoples who seek independence and freedom, thus endorsing the objectives and principles of the Nonaligned Movement [NAM], rather than dependence on the world's hegemonistic powers," the president's message said.

"Today," the message added, "we observe that most realities are presented in a distorted way by the media of the arrogant powers. Many events are ignored and all of the information and news that these media distribute to us reflect the ideals and way of thinking of those elements at the service of the owners of money, gold and power."

The president said the creation of a mechanism to guarantee a balanced exchange of information among the nonaligned countries would not only reduce dependence on the Western world's media monopoly but could also become a solid, broad foundation for mutual understanding and the strengthening of unity among the NAM member states. This mechanism, he said, could play a major role in the preservation of the cultural, national and religious identity of the people.

"Exchange of concrete, factual news and information would strengthen the professional capabilities of our countries and would also serve to lay the foundation for the establishment of a new order for the exchange of news and information. The attainment of these objectives would provide the third world countries with concrete, effective methods for use in the political and economic spheres and would help the peoples and national liberation movements to achieve independence and freedom."

In his address Foreign Minister Velayati said the conference, in view of Pool's importance regarding information exchanges, should achieve a common criterion on the present situation and assess ways and means for ensuring access to the facts and their objective dissemination.

"Technological development, widespread economic exchanges, the demise of the two-bloc system, the emergence of the collective security theory, the fact that geo-economic factors are replacing geo-political ones in the world, and, in general, the new national elements that are arising from the present international situation show the degree of interdependence and internationalization of problems and the need for full cooperation," Velayati said.

In contrast, he added, inequalities in international trade, the debt crisis, the increasing gap between north and south, the incompatibility of national foreign policy objectives, perpetual regional crises, and, finally the new situation of economic and investment interdependence that can be noted in science and industry confirm the continuation of contradictions.

The foreign minister said that in the current stage, characterized by the end of the cold war, it is obvious that new issues are emerging in the international arena, but NAM's identity and purpose remain unchanged and its active participation in international affairs will further increase its importance.

"In the midst of this situation, the adoption of correct and reasonable policies in the sphere of information and communication is particularly important, since it will help the Nonaligned Movement to take principled stands on events and avoid the negative influence that stem from the prevailing inequalities in the system and means of information exchanges."

Velayati also said the Pool conference should give priority to the establishment of channels for information and communications among the third world countries, to awareness of existing obstacles, to the need to close ranks in the sphere of information and communications and to the adoption of workable policies of coordination and cooperation in order to unify the Movement's actions in the new world order on the basis of the organization's standards and objectives.

In conclusion, Velayati said to avoid individual confrontation on world issues, the Tehran conference should pay

more attention to cooperation and contradictions in the new order. Likewise, he said, it should adopt a realistic approach towards contemporary life for adopting decisions and paving the way for professional work.

Hosayn Nasiri, managing director of the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) which is hosting the Pool assembly, said in his opening speech that the collapse of the east camp, mainly as a result of the decadence of its dominant social skeleton, as well as its inconsistent infrastructure, was falsely interpreted as the victory of the other i.e. the U.S. which he said is suffering from the effects of its own chronic cultural, social and political malaise.

This is why, he added, the arrogant theory of a 'unipolar world' emerged in the ambitious dreams of a number of rulers on the other side of the globe and has been perpetuated for some time.

Nasiri said a balanced approach towards the recent world developments would make it clear that the principles and authentic ideals of nonalignment have not lost their significance and logical correlation within the context of the current trends.

He regretted that the oppression and injustices inflicted on the world's deprived masses by the powerful states are not restricted only to its political and economic dimensions but spread to other fields and dimensions of social and international life and activities.

Referring to the information-communication order imposed by the western media on the world people, he said the violation of political, cultural, social, economic and legal sovereignty of the nonaligned and developing countries are the consequences of the practical policies of this dominant order.

"On the basis of the promising assumption of the role and methodology of the (Nonaligned) Movement in the new phase of international relations and the elevation of the world peoples consciousness and sensitivity about the maintenance and promotion of their national rights and freedoms, as well as the momentous trend of the establishment of the regional cooperation arrangements, we are of the opinion that the ambitious and adventurist dreams of the power-holders in the U.S. for the undisputed leadership of the world is irrational and irrelevant to the realities of man's life today. Hence it is doomed to failure.

Strengthening bilateral and multilateral ties among the NAM member states, and creating regional cooperation organizations within the body of the NAM for political, cultural, economic, scientific, educational and other purposes, according to IRNA chief, would play a valuable role for the improvement of their capabilities on national and collective levels.

"In our opinion the collective commitment of the NAM members as well as their respective news agencies to the principles and ideals of nonalignment and the existing

collective determination to go along with is the most precious asset to which the nonaligned news agencies Pool has access." Referring to the forthcoming NAM Summit Conference in Indonesia, Nasiri expressed hope that the Tehran conference will succeed in drafting a perfect as well as practical program for the revitalization of Pool for its subsequent submission to the summit and for attracting the necessary moral and material support.

Tehran To Publish Persian Books for Tajik Schools

LD1306190592 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian*
0930 GMT 11 Jun 92

[Text] Within the framework of cooperation between Iran and Tajikistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran will publish 200,000 Persian books for that country's schools. The education minister of Tajikistan, while announcing this news, said: Cultural and scientific ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Tajikistan will gradually expand. On the basis of an agreement signed between the two countries' education ministries in Tehran, the Islamic Republic of Iran will provide assistance to set up a cultural center and the technical university of Tajikistan.

It has also been agreed to send a group of students from Tajikistan to study in Iranian universities.

Daily Criticizes Iranian Ambassador's Statement

LD0106085792 *Tehran IRNA in English* 0802 GMT
1 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 1, IRNA—The morning daily "SALAM" Monday commented on the May 25 Swiss extradition to France of an employee of the Iranian embassy in Berne, Zia Sarhadi, on unfounded allegations of being involved in the assassination of Shahpur Bakhtiar.

Bakhtiar, the last prime minister of the deposed Shah, was stabbed to death in his Paris suburb home last August. Sarhadi was arrested by the Swiss police last December on charges of being involved in the attempt.

SALAM in a political note, argued that under the present circumstances that the Fourth Majles is said to be assessing certain measures against France, the Foreign Ministry has failed to take due steps.

It expressed surprise over recent remarks by Iran's ambassador to Paris Ali Ahani that Sarhadi's trial by the French judiciary should be accelerated.

"Such statements are not expected from our ambassador...our people as well as those interested in Iran and the Islamic revolution the world over will give a proper response to such an attitude by the French government. But, the official stance taken by the authorities has also its own importance."

It said the French Government was protecting fugitive Iranian criminals whereas "the share of dependents of

the Iranian government is contempt, nuisance, unfounded charges and prison."

"What the people and advocates of the revolution expect from the Foreign Ministry under the present crucial juncture, is that it will adopt such a powerful stance that no hostile government would dare to make such a fuss and play with the rights of Iranian nationals in their political games," concluded the daily.

French Firm Begins Oil Loading Terminal Repairs

LD1606081192 Tehran IRIB Television First
Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 13 Jun 92

[Text] Reconstruction work on the largest oil terminal in the Middle East, on Kharg Island, began today. According to the Central News Unit, 2 million barrels of oil per day can be loaded and exported from the oil terminal, at which nine 300,000 tonne tankers can berth simultaneously. Reconstruction work on the oil terminal—which sustained considerable damage during the imposed war—is being undertaken by a French company and will be completed in 18 months.

Importance of Gas, Oil Capital Investment Viewed

LD1406130692 Tehran IRNA in English 0642 GMT
14 Jun 92

[Text] Tehran, June 14, IRNA—Capital investment in the fields of gas and oil as the major sources of foreign currency revenue is exigent, said the English daily TEHRAN TIMES Sunday.

"The program to boost Iran's oil production capacity to five million barrels per day for March 1993 is still in full force," the daily's editorial said.

"In view of Iran's socio-political structure and its position in the present international system, a position which fundamentally clashes with the Western capitalistic system, there can be no expectation of the West's serious capital investment in Iran for elimination of difficulties."

Underlying that no serious investment has been made to develop oil and gas production in the country over the past ten years, it added, "because of this very weakness, Saudi Arabia has been able to impose its viewpoints on other OPEC members by relying on its production capacity."

Noting that gas will be the main type of energy used in future, as it is more economical and cleaner, it said "piping gas to Europe and South East Asia can be seriously pursued. The truth of the matter, however, is that Turkey cannot be relied upon in terms of piping gas."

The daily referred to various decision-making centers in Turkey and its political reliance on the U.S. and concluded "this is why investment on piping gas to Turkey seems perilous, as Turkish leader might at any moment decide to stop the line."

Iraqi 'Mercenary' Killed by Unidentified Gunmen

LD1506120592 Tehran IRNA in English 0949 GMT
15 Jun 92

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 15, IRNA—A mercenary of the Iraqi regime who was involved in several bombings in Iran was shot dead June 10 by unidentified gunmen in Iraq, it was announced here Monday.

According to a reliable source, Morad Shakur was an active member of Iraq's intelligence service. He was born in a village near the Bakhtaran province city of Sar-e Pol-e Zahab.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Reforms Said Causing Tension

NC1506070892 Paris AFP in English 0310 GMT
15 Jun 92

[Report by Laurent Maillard]

[Text] Tehran, June 15 (AFP)—Efforts by President Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to introduce economic and political reforms in Iran over the past year have led to tension in the country in recent weeks.

Violent street riots broke out in three towns in April and in May, reflecting the anger of destitute members of the population who are grappling with spiralling inflation, which foreign experts place above 40 percent.

This segment of the population sees the reforms as a threat to the benefits they acquired in the aftermath of the 1979 Islamic Revolution.

The demonstrations that broke out last month in Mashhad and Arak erupted when municipal officials tried to prevent residents from carrying out illegal constructions.

During the first years of the Islamic Revolution illegal constructions were tolerated and often encouraged by the leaders who stipulated that the "land belongs to Allah and the oppressed."

The poor, it was said, had the right to build wherever they pleased.

"Faced by the wish of the authorities to redress the situation and put an end to the chaotic proliferation of often insanitary neighborhoods, the oppressed are rebelling," said an Iranian observer who declined to be named.

The situation was exacerbated as a result of overpopulation, lack of transport, schools and outpatient clinics, with the poor facing most of the hardships.

The official response to the riots, during which protestors in Mashhad, Arak and Shiraz pillaged and burned public buildings and shops, was to hang eight people accused of being the instigators of the unrest.

Several others were sentenced to prison terms.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani acknowledged after the executions were announced that "a segment of the population is faced by hardships and is as a result angry" and urged local officials to satisfy the needs of the people, stressing that demonstrators should not be seen as "outlaws."

The government meanwhile announced the creation of anti-riot squads manned by the powerful Revolutionary Guards militia, in a move underlining the official concern that further riots could still break out.

On Saturday Iranian newspapers quoted Interior Minister Abdollah Nuri as saying that civil servants who fail to satisfy the needs of their constituents would be "punished."

His statements came as the unofficial RESALAT newspaper accused the Interior Ministry and the security forces of "negligence" in dealing with the rioters.

RESALAT, which is close to the powerful merchants of the famed Tehran bazaar, has also criticized the economic reforms of Hashemi-Rafsanjani saying that many decisions were "biased", instilling "fear and concern" in economic circles.

The daily has likewise implicitly hit out at the government's wish to open up the country to foreign investments, arguing that the time had come to "encourage Iranians to invest at home."

The revamping of Iran's rigid economic system threatens the interests of revolutionary associations and foundations that emerged in the aftermath of 1979 or during the 1980-1988 war with Iraq, according to Western experts here.

The economic activities of these groups, the economic experts said, had over the years been free from government control.

"The pill will be very hard to swallow not only for the people but also for some members of the regime, and the government's margin of maneuver to revamp the economy is extremely narrow," a European diplomat said.

Foreign 'Propaganda' on Judicial Process Criticized

LD1506163492 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] At a meeting of the judicial authorities today, Judiciary chief Yazdi referred to the necessary hard work, care, and effort rendered by the judges investigating the dossiers of saboteurs in Mashhad and a number of other cities, in accordance with religious and

legal standards. Noting the propaganda by certain foreign news agencies that such investigations are a form of trial without observing legal criteria, he said: Under Articles 20 and 21 of the Penal Courts Act and Articles 1 and 2 of the Supreme Court Branches Act, the Judiciary can assign the investigation of crimes that are within the jurisdiction of various courts, such as general, revolution and military, to person or persons by issuing special authorizations.

He added: Another issue far from the truth that has recently been part of foreign news agencies' propaganda against Iran is the harsh way in which the Judiciary has dealt with persons belonging to particular sects or ideologies. As the head of the Judiciary, I declare that, as clarified in our Constitution, we are all obliged to treat non-Muslims well and in an Islamic fashion, and observe their human rights. But that principle applies only to those who do not conspire or act against Islam and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Kordish Commentary Views Mashhad Riots

NC1606120392 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Station commentary: "Demonstrations by the People of Mashhad and the Position of the Clerical Regime's Officials"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: The demonstrations by tens of thousands of people in Mashhad on 30 and 31 May have completely (?confused) the clerical regime. Even though two weeks have elapsed, the regime's officials do not know what to say, who to blame, or even how to cover up these incidents.

What is clear to the people of Mashhad and the clerical regime itself is that the regime has done what it usually does. It has continued the inhuman policies it has followed toward protest movements in the 13 years it has been in power, ordering arrests and torture and executing some of the protesters to intimidate the people in a display of hatred and malice against the unhappy and disgusted people of the country. [passage omitted]

There is no doubt that the masses and the regime's own officials are well aware of the fact that such protest movements stem from the discontent and dissatisfaction of the people toward the clerical regime. This is an indisputable fact. In the past few days, however, the regime has sought to give the impression that this was not a concerted action on the part of the people of Mashhad, but merely a handful of hooligans harassing the people and disrupting their peace and tranquillity.

The officials are trying to give this impression in their speeches, but out of fear and apprehension they have made contradictory statements and placed the blame on people or parties which the other refutes. Some of the regime's officials and newspapers describe these actions as the actions of Mashhad residents. Others say that these actions have been instigated by foreigners and that

other countries are the catalysts for these protests. Yet another official sees the regime's salvation in attributing this action to counterrevolutionaries in Mashhad. As we said, the lack of unanimity among the regime's officials on the incident stems from fear, dread, and anxiety. [passage omitted]

One might ask the leader of the world's Muslims [Ayatollah Khamene'i] why fear has gripped the entire regime if, as he says, a handful of hooligans created this unrest and not the people of Mashhad. Is it possible that a few people could, in just a few hours, destroy hundreds of government offices and institutes and disrupt security in a city as big as Mashhad without the cooperation of a single resident? Why could hundreds of the regime's agents not subdue them or prevent such actions? Is it possible that in order to halt a handful of arsonists and hooligans, a contingent had to be recalled from the Afghan border and tens of thousands of Basijis (mobilization forces) made ready in Tehran? Was it also necessary to set up a special task force to suppress discontent and demonstrations in the city? This is what the officials have said, and their remarks alone are enough to refute the allegations of the leader of the world's Muslims. [passage omitted]

Support for the protest movement and expressions of disgust with the policies of the criminal regime toward the protests in Mashhad and other cities are the duties of every freedom-seeking and ("patriotic") individual. We hope that by repeating such actions in various cities we will see the regime toppled and the tyrannized people of our country victorious.

Bukan Residents Stage 'Extensive' Demonstrations

*NC1506124692 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian
Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 14 Jun 92*

[Text] According to a report from the Voice of Iranian Kordestan's correspondent at the party committee in Bukan, at 2230 on 6 June, a named element, acting on his own, attacked 'Ali Anbari's [not further identified] house near the Golden Baths in Bukan city.

Local people gathered to watch the brawl and the ruffians, terrified of the crowd, fired on 'Ali Anbari's supporters, killing three, including 'Ali Anbari's son and two others, Mohammad Amin and Golchehreh Ahmadi, children of Hajj 'Abdollah, and wounding four others, one critically.

The report states: On 7 June, the regime's law enforcement forces in Bukan patrolled the streets to prevent public demonstrations and took control of the streets. While the forces were manning the streets, a brave lady collected cartridges fired by the mercenary 'Esma'il Vali-Torkeh and showed them to the regime's law enforcement officials, saying: See what blessings you and your regime have brought the people of Kordestan! See who you have armed—those who have nothing to do but kill people and fire without reason and murder them!

The regime, ostensibly trying to defuse the people's fury, arrested 'Esma'il Vali-Torkeh and his son, but Bukan residents know this is merely an attempt to cover up the prevailing discontent.

Bukan residents, infuriated by the regime forces' sanguine confrontation with the people, staged extensive demonstrations; heroic Bukan's indignant people, their hearts wounded, staged brave demonstrations, attacking and damaging city buildings, the governor general's office, and some banks.

The regime's law enforcement forces fired on the angry demonstrators, killing and wounding some defenseless people. There is no information as to their number.

In the circumstances, the Bukan people's legitimate protests against the regime's repressive elements were extremely responsible and logical. During its disgraceful rule, the criminal clerical regime has given the people nothing but war, devastation, killing, poverty, and deprivation.

The wave of protests by the people of Iran, particularly in the cities of Arak, Shiraz, Mashhad, and others, in itself indicates the Iranian people's deep loathing and abhorrence of the clerical regime. The people's protest movements should continue throughout Kordestan.

Undoubtedly, the unity of the people and their support for one another, as well as their protests in unison, will rise like a tumultuous tidal wave and destroy every wall and dam, submerging the repressive reactionary forces.

The Bukan party committee conveys revolutionary ('greetings) to the brave Bukan people for their grand actions against the clerical regime oppressors and its condolences to the families and relatives of the victims, whose sorrow it shares, and prays for swift redress for the oppressed Bukan people.

Revolutionary Guards Militiamen Killed in West

*NC1606083592 Paris AFP in English 0812 GMT
16 Jun 92*

[Text] Tehran, June 16 (AFP) - Thirteen Iranian Revolutionary Guards militiamen were killed recently in western Iran by the opposition People's Mojahedin [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization], the newspaper JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI reported here Tuesday.

The paper did not disclose the date or place of the encounter but said funerals for the slain guards were held Monday in Khorramabad, southwestern Iran. Mourners at the funerals shouted slogans hostile to the Baghdad-based Mojahedin and "world oppression," a reference to the United States, according to the paper.

Council of Guardians Rejects Retribution Bill

LD1606084492 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1430 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The Council of the Guardians met today. In the course of this meeting the Council reviewed the bill about the degree of retribution for offenses committed by Armed Forces personnel. The bill was passed by the Islamic Majles on 24 May 1992, allowing experimental implementation of the bill for five years. But the Council of the Guardians returned the bill to the Majles, stating that several articles of this bill are contrary to the Shari'a and the Constitution.

Also during this meeting, the Council ratified the second round of the Majles elections results for the constituencies of Sarab and Ahar but rejected the results for the Ramian constituency.

Women's Role Since Revolution 'Top Priority'

LD1506064192 Tehran IRNA in English 0554 GMT 15 Jun 92

["Revolution Giving Women Their Proper Social, Occupational Roles"—IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, June 15, IRNA—Iranian women have become a focal point of attention since the 1979 Islamic revolution and have been given top priority in the country's plans for development. A principal characteristic of the Islamic revolution of Iran is the active participation of women and their pioneering role in the achievement of its victory. Through the eight-year long Iraq-Iran War, which ended in 1988, politically knowledgeable Iranian women played a determining role, some by fighting along with men in war fronts and others by remaining in cities and encouraging their men to repel the enemy. The proposition of military training for women took effect in 1986 as the late leader of the Islamic revolution, Imam Khomeini, underlined the importance of such training for women throughout the country.

Women population in Iran, almost always 49 percent of the total population of the country, was 24,164,049 according to a 1987 national census. However, the youngness of this population is a warning to draw the attention of officials for taking practical measures for sound short, medium, and long-term economic, social and cultural programs for this social class. In 1977 some 70 percent of the women population were under 29 years old. The proportion of the same age category to the total women population in 1987 was 72 percent.

According to the same census, 11.6 per cent of marriages in urban areas led to divorce while the figure for rural areas stood at 4.04 percent, an indication of stronger marriage bonds among rural families.

Women hold an [words indistinct] as well. In 1987, 32.2 percent of the total university graduates, 24.3 percent of post-graduates, and 32.9 percent of those holding doctoral degrees were women.

Presently, over 35 per cent of the manpower in the public sector are women. 42 per cent of the total in Education Ministry and 40.5 per cent in the health sector. Although women's employment rate in 1987 dropped by 18.5 percent compared to 1977, mainly due to Iraq-Iran, their employment in scientific, technical and professional careers was up by 45.2 percent. Meanwhile, the number of women managers and those holding senior posts increased by 12.1 percent in 1987 as compared to 1977.

Women have not only played a significant role in social fields, but they have been active in other areas including sports. The number of women athletes, which was 76,952 in 1982, rose to 300,000 in 1990. The total is expected to reach 400,000 in 1993.

Pakistan

Sharif—Rio Summit 'Truly Remarkable Event'

BK1406085092 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 14 Jun 92

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif, has described the Earth Summit at Rio de Janeiro as a truly remarkable event in human history and expressed the hope that after the summit, the world will never be the same again. In a statement on behalf of the Group of 77 at the round-table segment in Rio de Janeiro, he said we will leave the city with a renewed sense of urgency and purpose, determined to work for a more equitable and environmentally sound world order. He said we are doing this for ourselves, for our children, and for the planet which all of us share. The prime minister called the summit a giant step toward sustainable development and the creation of ecological and social environment which is safe, harmonious, and clean. Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif reminded the leaders attending the conference that the elimination of poverty is the first and the most formidable task before the world. He said neither our social structure nor our ecological system can survive the conditions of inequality and profligacy that prevail at present.

Sharif, India's Rao Meet on Rio Summit Sidelines

Talks 'Cordial, Decent'

BK1506031492 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Jun 92

[Text] Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and his Indian counterpart Narasimha Rao have expressed the desire to continue their dialogue to resolve outstanding issues between the two countries. They expressed this while speaking to newsmen after their 77-minute detailed talks at the hotel suite of Mohammad Nawaz Sharif in Rio de Janeiro yesterday.

In reply to a question, Mohammad Nawaz Sharif said they held discussion on all issues and agreed to continue the talks in a cordial and decent atmosphere. He said outstanding issues should be resolved to reduce tension. He said now it is the time to establish peace in order to divert our resources for the welfare of our people and eradication of poverty among them.

The Indian prime minister described his talks with his Pakistani counterpart as extremely cordial and candid. On the ministerial and secretary-level talks, Narasimha Rao said he has revealed his intention in favor of this but no date has so far been set for this purpose. This is the fourth meeting of the two leaders after their assuming office.

Commentary Welcomes Talks

BK1606061892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in English 1600 GMT 15 Jun 92

[A.B.S. Jafri commentary]

[Text] After their last face-to-face meeting on 3 February on the occasion of the world economic summit in Davos in Switzerland, Prime Ministers Mohammad Nawaz Sharif and Mr. Narasimha Rao have had another round of direct talks in the Brazilian capital, Rio de Janeiro. There are some highly significant aspects of this particular meeting between the two prime ministers. Perhaps, the most meaningful is the fact that between February and now there have been series of what can only be described as (?strain) if not setbacks in relations between Pakistan and India.

The endemic problem of Kashmir has not shown any abatement in tension. Some observers both in India and Pakistan and elsewhere tend to see signs of aggravation in the perennial tension over Kashmir. Then, almost from the blue, the two countries found themselves pushed into unsavory diplomatic bickering. The redeeming feature was that various sections of public opinion disapproved of the obvious disregard for diplomatic properties and common courtesies. It is to the credit of foreign offices on both sides that the episode was soon confined to the background, although New Delhi chose to remove the scheduled foreign secretary-level talks to the back burner. But this [word indistinct] Islamabad had properly underplayed.

Relations between Pakistan and India are prone to sudden disturbances and storms only to clear off. The Rio meeting between the prime ministers Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif and Mr. Narasimha Rao has taken place within days of what had at one point threatened to be quite a hurricane. The Rio meeting has to be seen as part of the whole and prickly uneven perspective. The unevenness does not become less to be regretted simply because it is more or less a permanent feature of the vast landscape of Pakistan-India relations. Reports from Rio do not offer any positive or concrete promise of program on any of the several irritants which keep the Islamabad-New Delhi exchanges at a simmering point. It is notable that the breaks of get together at

Premier Nawaz Sharif's hotel suite lasted some 75 minutes almost twice as long as it was originally scheduled. Obviously, the two leaders with so much to discuss and contest about would not have been talking of cabbages and carrots. Their first concern quite naturally was to reverse the downward graph in their relations. This was what All India Radio commentator told his listeners at home and we in Pakistan could not [words indistinct]. The nature of the exchanges between the two of the most urbane and cool-headed leaders could not possibly have been anything but candid and heart to heart. There is evidence to support this because the two prime ministers were accompanied by only their close aides. The atmosphere of the talks has been described as serious and sincere and the exchanges are businesslike, candid, and objective.

With all that the people of the subcontinent would go to form an idea of what positive result one has to expect from the Nawaz Sharif Narasimha Rao meeting. The first and foremost is that there has been a reversal of the declining trend. Only a few weeks ago, New Delhi and Islamabad were merely trading scalding hot stuff. There has been a change in that mood for the better. This is no small improvement considering that relations between Pakistan and India are marked by any number of combustible mass and flashpoint. Mr. Narasimha Rao told reporters that there has been a setback and also added, let me quote his very words, we must overcome that. The secretary-level talks are once again on the cards. So, the channels of communication must always remain open.

Japanese UN Worker Shot Dead in Peshawar

OW1406231592 Tokyo KYODO in English 2301 GMT
14 Jun 92

[Text] Islamabad, June 15 KYODO—A Japanese engineer working for the United Nations office coordinating aid for Afghanistan was shot dead outside his house in the northern Pakistan city of Peshawar on Sunday, UN officials in Islamabad said.

Kimio Kasashima, a 38-year-old mechanical engineer working with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian and Economic Assistance for Afghanistan, was killed around noon while sitting in his car.

His body was found by his Nepalese wife, Darga, a senior official of the UN organization said.

Local press reports said Kasashima was killed by a single shot fired under the eye. The identity of his killer is unknown.

Kasashima had been working with the United Nations in Pakistan for two years and joined the organization aiding Afghanistan only few months ago, the official said.

Japanese diplomats said Kasashima oversaw the maintenance and repairs of 120 large trucks that the Japanese government has provided to the UN for its supply operations in Afghanistan.

Air Services Agreement Signed With Tajikistan*BK1506144692 Islamabad PTV Television Network
in English 1400 GMT 15 Jun 92*

[Text] Pakistan and the newly-independent Central Asian republic of Tajikistan signed an air services agreement in Karachi today. Flights between Karachi and Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan, will start next month. Initially, there will be a once a week flight from both the countries.

'Cold-Blooded Killing' of Sindh Villagers Reported*BK1306091592 Karachi DAWN in English
11 Jun 92 p 13*

[Editorial: "Tando Bahawal Killings: Who is Responsible?"]

[Text] A group of poor peasants picked up from their village by a raiding party in uniform, taken to the banks of the River Indus and shot in cold blood. The official version, dutifully broadcast by state radio and television, transforms the peasants into terrorists killed by "law-enforcing" agencies during an armed encounter. Senior officials, without blinking an eye, brief the Prime Minister, who is on a tour of Sindh, about the details of the encounter and show him the weapons recovered from the "terrorists". Among the murdered villagers is a young boy of 16 studying in class nine and an old man of sixty. It is often said that truth is stranger than fiction. If this had been the plot of a thriller, it would have been rejected on grounds that it sounded improbable.

But it is something that actually happened. What makes this unimaginable horror worse is the slow dance of the authorities concerned, both civil and military, who till the writing of these lines had furnished no explanation much less an apology for the incident. The best the Prime Minister has been able to come up with is the standard line that the government is trying to find out the truth and that "justice will be done to everyone in Sindh"—a claim that must be raising loud cackles in the interior of the province.

As independent evidence confirms, this incident happened very quickly. Why is it taking the authorities so long to arrive at the truth? Or is it that the truth is so embarrassing that they do not know how to confront it? It is one of the sayings of the Caliph Omar that if a dog went hungry by the banks of the Euphrates God would hold him responsible for it. Who is responsible for this cold-blooded killing of nine men by the banks of the Indus? First we have the Shah Bandur incident in which men belonging to the navy were said to have shot a number of Al-Zulfikar terrorists. The way that incident was reported by the Navy raised more questions than it answered. And now we have the tragic Tando Bahawal episode. It is enough to make you lose faith once and for all in whatever official agencies and their glib spokesmen say.

Could the enquiries into this incident be speeded up? And could the temptation of a coverup, or of fine-honing the truth, be avoided? Nothing less will dissipate the

wave of concern and anger that has swept the country since the Press blew the official cover from the reporting of this incident. Furthermore, the strictest action must be taken against the people who are involved in this gruesome tragedy. Nor must the dragnet of accountability be restricted to the junior personnel of the concerned "law-enforcing" agency. All its senior officers who so quickly swallowed the terrorism theory should be made to pay in some degree for their gullibility. The demand that television apologise for spreading a distorted version of the Tando Bahawal incident is the least that this state-controlled electronic media is expected to do. The government at its highest level should apologise and make amends for this outrage. The army should clearly understand that its entire operation in Sindh has been called into question by this incident. Nothing less than the most decisive steps will restore the public's faith in the clean-up operation it has been called upon to carry out in Sindh.

Army Officer Admits Involvement*BK1506045092 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 0200 GMT 15 Jun 92*

[Text] Operation Cleanup, launched by the Army in Sindh, is primarily aimed at arresting criminals, recovering illegal weapons, wiping out antisocial elements, and ensuring the safety of rail and road travel. This was stated by Vice Chief of General Staff Major General Jamshed Malik in a briefing to foreign and local journalists at General Headquarters in Rawalpindi yesterday evening. He said the role of the Army is to create an atmosphere enabling the government to resolve the problems confronting the people of Sindh. The solution to these problems lies in the political, social, and economic measures. Major General Jamshed Malik has said the Army has made certain recommendations for administrative changes and there is an assurance from the government that whoever stands in the way of Operation Clean Up will be transferred. In reply to a question on the Jamshoro incident, he said sufficient facts are there to ensure the involvement of a military officer. An Army major has been taken into custody and an inquiry report in this connection will be released within a day or two. If the charges against the officer have been proved, court martial orders will be issued against him. He said after the Jamshoro incident, General (Muzaffar Khan) has assumed charge as the new officer commanding. Divisional and Brigadier commanders have been transferred. In response to a question, the vice chief of general staff said police protection will be withdrawn in the case of those people who undeservedly enjoy this privilege. Giving details about robbers, he said they are hiding in their localities in thick jungles along the Indus River. When accosted, they most probably go to India or flee to Balochistan. He said the robbers will be constrained to leave their locations when the water level in the Indus River rises from June to September and it will be easy to realize the objective of the operation during that period.

Religious Leader Killed; Assailants Apprehended

*BK1606023692 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network
in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Jun 92*

[Text] According to Associated Press of Pakistan, two armed assailants shot and killed religious leader (Maulana Mukhtar Ahmad Khayal) and injured 12 persons

near Jhang yesterday. People overpowered the assailants and handed them over to the police. Punjab Chief Minister Ghulam Haider Wyne has condemned the assassination of (Maulana Mukhtar Ahmad Khayal) and said the criminals will be meted out exemplary punishment. He appealed to people, especially religious leaders, to maintain unity and peace to foil the nefarious designs of anti-Islamic and antinational forces.